Jan 23 1845

To Miss Foster Hennikes

Dunbarton Jan. 23, 1845.

Miss Foster.

Dear Madam,— Your letter of last week has occasioned me another visit to Goffstown to consult Br. Willey in regard to the opening of a school there by two very young ladies. I have just this moment returned, & fear I shall hardly have time to write a dozen lines, before the mail will be in, & it will be too late to send my letter.

The prospect at G. I think is decidedly favorable. Br. Willey is willing to do all he can to sustain a school there, & will immediately be consulting the leading men in the village on the subject, & do what he can to enlist their feelings. He says this is very important; if the leading men in the village become interested in the object, the school, he thinks, will succeed. But in order to secure their influence, he remarked, that it would be indispensably necessary to have some definite testimonials from you & your brother the minister at Hennikes, concerning the qualifications of the young ladies to take charge of such a school. He says you & your brother are both known at Goffstown, & a testimony from you would have great influence. As those who propose to engage in the enterprise are quite young, he wishes your opinion (& that of your brother) in relation, not only to the scholarship of the young ladies, but in

relation to the maturity of mind which they possess, & their probable capacity to manage such a school as is proposed. He does not wish you to say great things of them, by way of eulogy, but he wants a plain, business-like testimonial which shall embody your opinion of their qualifications, both in respect to scholarship, and other requisites to enable them to keep a good school. I expect Mr. Willy here, in the course of a week or two, & told him I would write you immediately, and endeavor to obtain such a testimonial from you. Will you have the goodness, as soon as you can, after receiving this, to forward me such a document, with the signature of yourself & brother? You will of course write this on a leaf by itself.

Another thing Brother Willy thought very important; & that is, that the young ladies should visit Gallatin, in the course of three or four weeks, & be introduced to some of the leading families there. He thought this would have very great effect in enlisting their feeling in the young ladies' behalf; that they would do much more for them, if they could only see them, than they would for entire strangers. I think myself that this is of considerable importance. The young ladies would go on & open their school with much more confidence, if they could first see & feel that they had in some measure secured the good will of the inhabitants.

Br. Willy thinks it will be well to have a pu

venile department in the school, (perhaps in a separate room,) for children under 10 years of age. I am confident such a department would be necessary, in order to get an adequate support for two teachers. They have been accustomed to pay three dollars a term, or 25 cts. per week, for scholars of all ages, who attend a Select School. The probability is, some thing like 30 scholars might be obtained, including all ages, in that town. Mr. Willy's opinion is, that there will be scholars there who would like to take lessons on the piano, so as to render it an object to have one. — Drawing & painting also would receive some attention.

As to the visit of the young ladies to G. I would say, that I deem it so important that I would propose, to have them procure some one to bring them here, in the course of next month, — then I will carry them to Goffstown, where Mr. Willy will take charge of them (as he says with a great deal of pleasure) and when they have finished their visit of perhaps two or three days among the people, he will send his horse & sleigh to glen mike with them.

In very great haste, yours, truly

John M. Fuelnam.

PS. Remember us all very affectionately to A. Tell her we send love & hope to hear from her very soon. J. M. F.

Said PAID

6

CONCORD
JAN
25
N.H.

Miss Sarah Gosten,
Hennicker
N. H.

Beauties of Bonar.

Gems of Thought

From the Hymns of Faith and Hope

By Horatio Bonar, D.D.

Carefully compiled by

John M. Putnam.

"Apples of Gold in Pictures of Silver".

The poetical works of Horatio Bonar, are of a very peculiar character. For richness of thought, originality, variety, and withal, deep-toned piety, they may be regarded as equal, if not superior, to any thing of the kind in the English language.

The compiler of this book has examined his works with great care & minuteness, with a special view to ascertain, & extract, his finest gems of thought, — gems which will live, & sparkle, & bless mankind, so long as beauty of language, & excellency of spirit, are capable of awakening interest, & ministering pleasure to the human soul.

J. M. S.

The Beauties of Bonar.

Where shall Christians meet?

Where the faded flower shall freshen,
Freshen never more to fade;
Where the shadeed sky shall brighten,
Brighten never more to shade:
Where the sun-blaze never scorches;
Where the star-beams cease to chill;
Where no tempest stirs the echoes
Of the wood, or wave, or hill:
Where the morn shall wake in gladness,
And the noon the joy prolong;
Where the day-light dies in fragrance,
Mid the burst of holy song:
Brother, we shall meet & rest,
Mid the holy & the blest.

12 Gimo
15 Hook
20 Cut
35 work
198.

Strip of Board 3 ft. & 3 in. long by 5 1/2 inches width stained both sides, with Mr. Hodstead's head of Yale.
J. M. Hartman

Dish, or Receiver, 14 1/2 inches long.
~~2 3/4 inch deep.~~
8 inches wide.
2 3/4 inches deep.
Wire loop on one end.

3 feet 4 1/2 in. long
3 feet 3 in.
3 feet 1/2
3 feet

Contents.

	Page
The Land of Light,	1
The Heavenly City,	2
Where shall the Ransomed meet?	3
No more Sea,	4
Gladly away,	5
Brethren Arise,	6
All Hail in Christ,	7
Morning,	8
My Hopes are passing upward,	9
I love you pale blue Sky,	10
The Consolation,	11
Our one Life.	12
Passing away	13
Ocean Teachings,	14
The Cloudless,	15
Prayer to the Spirit,	16
Old Age,	17
The Grave,	18
The Feast	19
Christ our Peace,	20
Cling to the Crucified,	21
Asleep in Christ,	22
The Saint at rest,	23
Dust to Dust,	24
The Shadow of the Cross	25
Sower Divine,	26
He has come,	27

Contents.

Jesus my Shepherd,	2
Tho' rich He became poor,	2
It doth not yet appear what we shall be,	3
I lay my Wants on Jesus,	3
The Voice from Galilee,	3
The River of God,	3
Be True,	3
Up between the Stars,	3
The World deceitful,	3
Great Truths,	3
Turn & live,	3
Bright Visions,	3
Precious Memories,	4
Savior ever near,	4
Shall this Life be wasted?	4
Thy Way, not Mine,	4
The Shepherd's Plain,	4
He spared not His Son,	4
When shall we meet?	4
Calm me, my God,	4
Go up, my Heart,	4
Thine only,	4
What is Life?	5
Sunset by the Sea,	5
Turn & live,	5
I shall conquer,	5
He is risen,	5

Contents.

	Page.
Press on,	55
The Morning comes,	56
Thy name is Love,	57
God Speaks,	58
Jesus, Sun & Shield,	59
The Love of God,	60
Heaven unfading,	61
The Marriage of the Lamb,	62
Shake off from us the Night,	63
Bright Feet of May,	64
Sing a New Song at Morn,	65
Peace with God,	66
Show me Thy Tears,	67
The great Message,	68
The Lord needeth thee,	69
The Convent,	70
'Tis the Beloved calls,	71
Ascription,	72
Mine & Thine,	73
A perfect Creed,	74
The three Sleepers,	75
Creation in earnest,	76
I go to Life,	77
Thy Will be done,	78
I'm Homeward bound,	79
Living long,	80
Our Lucy,	81

Contents.

	Pa
Come, heavenly Spirit,	8
The day is gone,	8
Give me the lowly Heart,	8
Gold,	8
I rest on Love divine,	8
Sabbath Hymn,	8
Summer of the Heart,	8
Use me, my God	8
The Master's Touch,	9
Be happy in thy God,	9
Abide with us,	9
Mighty Comforter,	9
What tho' with weariness oppressed,	9
Renew us Holy One,	9
Sea of Glass,	9
Shine on,	9
God in all,	9
None like Jesus,	9
The good Shepherd,	10
We walk by Faith,	10
Home above,	10
The Son of God has come,	10
The Trumpet sounds,	10
Our Battle,	10
Zion's Day-spring,	10
The Cup of Sorrow	10
The Christian's Sword,	10

Contents

	Page.
Finish thy work,	109
Palestine,	110
The Gain of Loss,	111
Sigh not for cloudless Skies,	112
Mighty Spirit, comfort,	113
Almost Home,	114
All is God's,	115
Give Light,	116
Watch & pray	117
Glory to Father, Son & Spirit,	118
Love not the World,	119
Celestial Water-brooks,	120
Intercession,	121
The true Bread,	122
Come, King of Glory,	123
Resurrection,	124
Our Father's House,	125
The Cross,	126
The White Raiment,	127
Divine Peace,	128
Who touched me?	129
Prayer for Children,	130
The Benediction,	131
Love our Resting-place,	132
Jesus help,	133
Give Glory to God,	134
Christ's Love,	135

Contents.

	Page
Fill Thou my Life with Praise,	1
'Tis God that justifies,	1
Life in Christ,	1
The Bible,	1
The Love I need,	1
Life hid in Christ,	1
Love the Truth,	1
Wonders of the Cross,	1
Ever with Christ,	1
The Morning Star,	1
To a Little Child,	1
This is not our Home,	1
Brother, where shall we meet,	1
Beckon us upward,	1
How long?	1
The Church glorified,	1
The Mystery,	1
Let all be One,	1
Praise God,	1
The King of Glory,	1
Heavenly City,	1
Alleluia,	1
Holy Sleep,	1
Death at Sea,	1
Heaven at last,	1

The Land of Light.

That clime is not like this dull clime of ours;
All, all is brightness there;
A sweeter influence breathes around its bowers,
And a far milder air.
No calm below is like that calm above;
No region here is like that realm of love;
Earth's softest Spring ne'er shed so soft a light,
Earth's brightest Summer never shone so bright.

That sky is not like this sad sky of ours;
Tinged with earth's change & care:
No shadow dims it, & no rain-cloud lowers;
No broken sunshine there!
One everlasting stretch of azure, pours
Its stainless splendor o'er these sinless shores;
For there Jehovah shines with heavenly ray;
There Jesus reigns dispensing endless day.

The robes of saints are not like those below;
No angel's half so bright!
Whence came that beauty, whence that living glow?
Whence came that radiant white?
Washed in the blood of the atoning Lamb,
Fair as the light those robes of theirs became;
And now, all tears wiped off from every eye,
They wander where the freshest pastures lie,
Thro' all the nightless day of that unfading sky!

No. 1.

The Heavenly City.

City of the pearl-white portal,
City of the jasper wall,
City of the golden pavement;
Seat of endless festival:
City of Jehovah, Salem,
City of eternity,—
To thy bridal hall of gladness,
From this prison would I flee:
Heir of glory,
That shall be for thee & me!

Soon where earthly beauty blinds not,
No excess of brilliance palls,—
Salem, city of the holy,
We shall be within thy walls!
There beside yon crystal river,
There beneath life's wondrous tree;
There with nought to cloud or sever,
Ever with the Lamb to be;
Heir of glory,
That shall be for thee & me!

3

Where shall the Ransomed meet?

Where the faded flower shall freshen,
Freshen never more to fade;
Where the shaded sky shall brighten,
Brighten never more to shade:
Where the sun-blaze never scorches;
Where the star-beams cease to chill;
Where no tempest stirs the echoes
Of the wood, or wave, or hill:
Where the morn shall wake in gladness,
And the noon the joy prolong;
Where the day-light dies in fragrance,
Mid the burst of holy song:
Brother, we shall meet & rest,
Mid the holy & the blest!

Where a blasted world shall brighten,
Underneath a bluer sphere,
And a softer, gentler sunshine
Shed its healing splendor here:
Where earth's barren vales shall blossom,
Putting on their robe of green,
And a purer, fairer Eden
Be where only wastes have been:
Where a King in kingly glory,
Such as earth has never known,
Shall assume the righteous sceptre,
Claim & wear the holy crown:
Brother, we shall meet & rest,
Mid the holy & the blest!

7

4

No more Sea. Rev. 21:1.

Summer Ocean, how I'll miss thee,
Miss the thunder of thy roar;
Miss the music of thy ripple,
Miss thy sorrow-soothing shore:
Summer Ocean, how I'll miss thee,
When the "Sea shall be no more!"

Summer Ocean, how I'll miss thee,
As along thy strand I range;
Or as there I sit & watch thee,
In thy moods of endless change,—
Mirthful moods of morning gladness,
Musing moods of sunset sadness,
When the dying winds caress thee,
And the sinking sunbeams kiss thee,
And the crimson cloudlets press thee,
And all nature seems to bless thee!
Summer Ocean, how I'll miss thee,
Miss the wonders of thy shore,—
Miss the magic of thy grandeur,
When the "Sea shall be no more!"

5

Gladly Away.

Gladly away from this toil would I hasten,
Up to the crown that for me has been won;
Unthought of by man in rewards or in praises,—
Only remembered by what I have done.

Up & away, like the odors of sunset,
That sweeten the twilight as darkness comes on;
So be my life,—a thing felt, but not noticed,
And I but remembered by what I have done.

Yes, like the fragrance that wanders in freshness.
When the flowers that it came from are closed up & gone,
So would I be to this world's weary dwellers,
Only remembered by what I have done.

Not myself, but the truth that in life I have spoken,—
Not myself, but the seed that in life I have sown.
Shall pass on to ages; all about me forgotten,
Save the truth I have spoken, the things I have done.

Needs there the praise of the love-written record,
The name & the epitaph graved on the stone?
The things we have lived for,—let them be our story,
We ourselves but remembered by what we have done.

9

Brethren Arise.

Brethren, arise,
Let us go hence!
The New Jerusalem,
Like a resplendent gem,
Sends down its heavenly light,
Attracting our dull sight.
I see the bright ones wait
At each fair pearly gate;
I hear their voices call;
I see the jasper wall,
The clear translucent gold,
The glory all untold!

Brethren, arise,
Let us go hence!
What are earth's joys & gems?
What are its diadems?
Our crowns are waiting us
Within our Father's house.
Our friends above the skies
Are bidding us arise;
Our Lord, he calls away
To scenes of sweeter day
Than this sad earth can know,
Let us arise, & go!

All Help in Christ.

I have no help but Thine; nor do I need
Another arm save Thine to lean upon.
It is enough, my Lord, enough indeed;
My strength is in Thy might, Thy might alone.

I have no wisdom, save in Him who is
My wisdom & my teacher, both in one;
No wisdom can I lack while Thou art wise,
No teaching do I crave, save Thine alone.

Mine is the sin, but Thine the righteousness:
Mine is the guilt, but Thine the cleansing blood;
Here is my robe, my refuge, & my peace,—
Thy blood, Thy righteousness, O Lord my God.

I know that deadly evils compass me;
Dark perils threaten, yet I would not fear;
Nor poorly shrink, nor feebly turn to flee;
Thou, O my Christ, art buckler, sword & spear.

But see, the Pillar-cloud is rising now,
And moving onward thro' the desert-night;
It beckons, & I follow, for I know
It leads me to the heritage of light.

Morning.

The loving morn is springing
From night's unloving gloom;
And earth seems now arising
In beauty from the tomb.

See day-light far above us,
Tinging each cloudy wreath,
Ere it showers itself in splendor,
Upon the plain beneath.

O the gay burst of beauty
That is flushing over earth,
And calling forth its millions
To holy morning mirth!

Yet look we for a sunrise
More beautiful than this;
And watch we for a dawning
Of purer light & bliss.

When a far fairer morning
O'er greener hills shall rise,
And a far fresher sunlight
Look down from bluer skies!

My Hopes are passing upward.

My hopes are passing upward, onward,
And with my hopes my heart has gone;
My eye is turning skyward, sunward,
Where glory brightens round yon throne.

My spirit seeks its dwelling yonder;
And faith foredates the joyful day.
When these old skies shall cease to sunder
The holy ties of family.

Well pleased I find years rolling o'er me,
And hear each day-time's measured tread;
Far fewer clouds now stretch before me;
Behind me is the darkness spread.

My future from my past unlinking,
Each dying year unwinds the spell;
The visible is swiftly sinking,
Uprises the invisible.

To light, unchanging & eternal,
From mists that sadden this bleak waste;
To scenes that smile forever vernal,
From winter's faded leaf I haste.

I love you pale blue Sky.

I love you pale blue sky; it is the floor
Of that glad home where I shall shortly be;
A home from which I shall go out no more,—
From toil, & grief, & vanity set free.

I gaze upon you everlasting arch,
Up which the bright stars wander, as they shine,
And, as I mark them in their mighty march,
I think how soon that journey shall be mine.

You silver drift of silent cloud, far off
In the still heaven,—thro' you my pathway lies:
You rugged mountain-peak,—how soon you too
Shall I behold beneath me, as I rise!

Not many more of life's slow-moving hours,
Shaded with sorrow's melancholy hue!
O what a glad ascending shall be ours!
O what a pathway up you starry blue!

11

The Consolation.

The storm has broken, & the heavy blast
That stifled morn's fair breath, & shook its dew,
Is dying into sunshine; & the last
Cold cloud has vanished from yon arch of blue.

So falls the stroke of sorrow, & so springs
Strange joy & comfort from the very grief,
Even to the weariest sufferer; so brings
Each heavy burden still its own relief.

One cross the less remains for me to bear;
Already borne is that of yesterday;
That of to-day shall no to-morrow share,
To-morrow's cross itself shall pass away.

The storm that yesterday ploughed up the sea,
Is buried now beneath its level blue;
One storm the fewer now remains for me,
One sky & earth are made forever new.

3493

Our One Life.

'Tis not for man to trifle! life is brief,
And sin is here.
Our age is but the falling of a leaf,
A dropping tear.
We have no time to sport away the hours,
All must be earnest in a world like ours.

Not many lives, but only one have we,
One, only one;
How sacred should that one life ever be,
That narrow span!
Day after day filled up with blessed toil,
Hour after hour still bringing in new spoil.

Our being is no shadow of thin air,
No vacant dream;
No fable of the things that never were,
But only seem;—
'Tis full of meaning as of mystery,
Tho' strange & solemn may that meaning be.

Passing Away.

Beyond the smiling & the weeping,
I shall be soon;
Beyond the waking & the sleeping,
Beyond the sowing & the reaping,
I shall be soon.
Love, rest, & home!
Sweet hope!
Lord, tarry not, but come.

Beyond the gathering & the strowing,
I shall be soon;
Beyond the ebbing & the flowing,
Beyond the coming & the going,
I shall be soon.
Love, rest, & home!
Sweet hope!
Lord, tarry not, but come.

Beyond the parting & the meeting,
I shall be soon;
Beyond the farewell & the greeting,
Beyond this pulse's fever beating,
I shall be soon.
Love, rest, & home!
Sweet hope!
Lord, tarry not, but come.

Ocean Teachings.

That rising storm! it has awakened me;
My slumbering spirit starts to life anew;
That blinding spray-drift, how it falls upon me,
As on the weary flower the freshening dew.

That rugged rock-fringe that girds in the ocean,
And calls the foam from its translucent blue,—
It seems to pour strange strength into my spirit—
Strength for endurance, strength for conflict, too.

And these bright ocean-birds, these billow-rangers,
The snowy-breasted, each a winged wave,—
They tell me how to joy in storm & dangers,
When surges whiten, or when whirlwinds rave.

And thou keen sun-flash, thro' the cloud-wreath bursting,
Silvering the sea, the sward, the rock, the foam,—
What light within me has thy brave gleam kindled!
'Tis from the land of light that thou art come.

Ev'n thus it is, that God me daily teacheth
Sweet knowledge, out of all I hear & see;
Each object has a heavenly voice within it,
Each scene, however troubled, speaks to me.

15

The Cloudless.

No shadows yonder!
  All light & song;
Each day I wonder,
  And say, How long
Shall time me sunder
  From that dear throng?

No weeping yonder!
  All fled away,
While here I wander
  Each weary day,
And sigh as I ponder
  My long, long stay.

No partings yonder!
  Time & space never
Again shall sunder:
  Hearts cannot sever;
Dearer, & fonder,
  Hands clasp forever!

14

Prayer to the Spirit.

Almighty Comforter & Friend,
Eternal Spirit, now descend,
Fill us from Thy heavenly stove!
Thou art the Church's holy guest,
Earnest of her eternal rest,—
Let us grieve Thee never more.

Great promise of the Father, come,
The Church's fading lamps relume;
Come, rekindle joy & love!
Wisdom, & truth, & love are Thine,
Life, light, & holiness divine;—
Shed Thy gifts down from above.

Witness of Him who died & rose,
Who, as the Conqueror of our foes,
Took His seat upon the throne!
Great gift of Jesus glorified,
Revealer of the Crucified,
Unto us reveal the Son.

Old Age.

I am wandering down life's shady path,
Slowly, slowly, wandering down;
I am wandering down life's rugged path,
Slowly, slowly, wandering down.

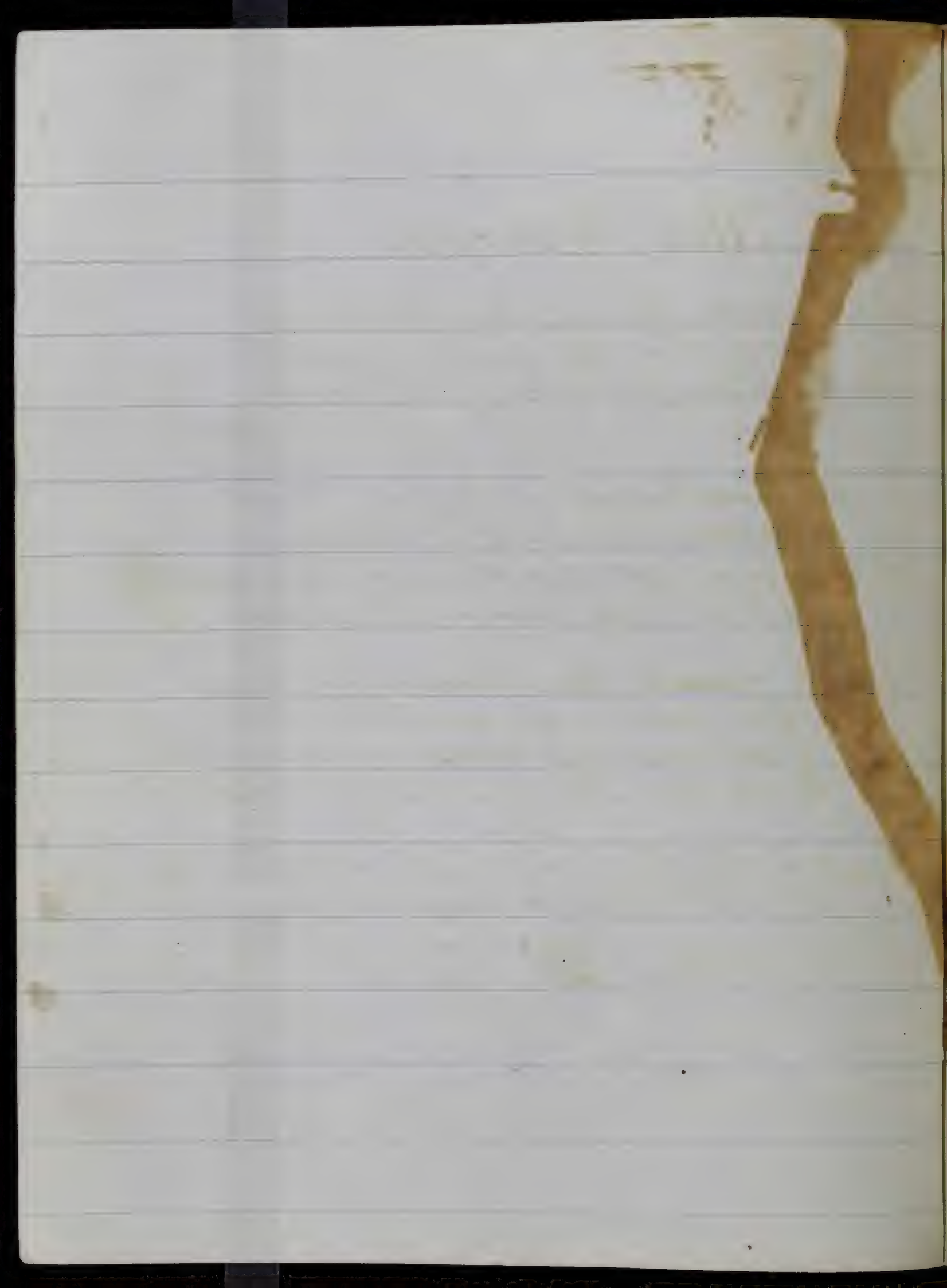
'Tis the dreamy haze of twilight now.
'Tis the hour of silent trust:
'Tis the solemn hue of faded skies,
'Tis the time of tranquil trust.

I shall rest in yon low valley soon,
There to sleep my toil away:
I shall rest in yon sweet valley soon,
There to sleep my tears away.

I shall rise & put on glory,
When the great morn shall dawn;
I shall rise & put on beauty,
When the glad morn shall dawn.

I shall meet the many parted ones,
In that one home of joy;
Lost love forever found again,
In that dear home of joy.

No 2.



The Grave.

Lie down, frail body, here,
Earth has no fairer bed,
No gentler pillow to afford;
Come, rest thy homesick head.

A sky without a cloud,
A sea without a wave,—
These are but shadows of thy rest,
In this thy peaceful grave.

Soon shall the trump of God
Give out the welcome sound
That shakes the silent chamber-walls,
And breaks the turf-sealed ground.

That which was sown an earthly seed,
Shall rise a heavenly flower;
'Twas sown in weakness here,
'Twill then be raised in power.

19

The Feast.

Love strong as death, nay, stronger,
Love mightier than the grave,
Broad as the earth, and longer
Than ocean's widest wave:
This is the love that sought us,
This is the love that bought us,
This is the love that brought us
To gladdest day from saddest night;
From deepest shame to glory bright;
From depths of death to life's fair height;
From darkness to the joy of light:
This is the love that leadeth
Us to His table here;
This is the love that spreadeth
For us this royal cheer.

Christ our Peace.

I thought upon my sins, & I was sad,
My soul was troubled sore & filled with pain;
But then I thought on Jesus, & was glad,
My heavy grief was turned to joy again.

I thought upon the law, the fiery law,
Holy, & just, & good in its decree;
I looked to Jesus, & in Him I saw
That law fulfilled, its curse endured for me.

I saw my sad estate, condemned to die,
Then terror seized my heart, & dark despair,
But when to Calvary I turned my eye,
I saw the cross, & read forgiveness there.

21

Cling to the Crucified.

Cling to the Crucified!
His death is life to thee,—
Life for eternity.
His pains thy pardon seal;
His stripes thy bruises heal;
His cross proclaims thy peace,—
Bids every sorrow cease.
His blood is all to thee,
It purges thee from sin;
It sets thy spirit free,
It keeps thy conscience clean.
Cling to the Crucified!

Cling to the Crucified!
His is a heart of love,
Full as the hearts above;
Its depths of sympathy
Are all awake for thee;
His countenance is light,
Ev'n in the darkest night.
That love shall never change,
That light shall ne'er grow dim;
Charge thou thy faithless heart,
To find its all in Him.
Cling to the Crucified!

Asleep in Christ.

Rest without broken dreams,
Or wakeful fears,
Or hidden tears;
That shall be thine!
All well with thee;
O, would that it were mine!

A soul still upward bent
On higher flight,
With wing of light;
That shall be thine!
All well with thee;
O, would that it were mine!

Life that shall fear no death;
God's life above,
Of light & love;
That shall be thine!
All well with thee;
O, would that it were mine!

Morn that shall light the tomb,
And call from dust
The slumbering just;
That shall be thine!
All well with thee;
O, would that it were mine!

The Saint at rest.

O safe at home, where the dark tempter roams not;
How have I envied thy far happier lot!
Already resting where the evil comes not;
The tear, the toil, the woe, the sin forgot.

O safe in port, where the rough billow breaks not,
Where the wild sea-moan saddens thee no more,
Where the remorseless stroke of tempest shakes not;
When, when shall I, too, gain that tranquil shore?

Away above these scenes of guilt & folly,
Beyond this desert's heat & weariness,
Safe in the city of the ever holy,
Let me make haste to join thy perfect bliss.

Dust to Dust.

Dust, receive thy kindred!
Earth take now thine own!
To thee this trust is rendered,
In thee this seed is sown.

Guard of the shaded Churchyard,
Warder of the clay,
Watch the toil-worn sleeper,
Till the awaking day.

Watch the well-loved sleeper;
Guard that placid form;
Fold around it gently,—
Shield it from alarm.

Clasp it kindly, fondly,
To cherish, not destroy;
Clasp it as the mother
Clasps her nestling joy.

an

so de-

hat the

rnment,

bably the

e years.

eting had

year, and

minds of

ourse of

hat they

, about

I am

in the

de

De

Gran

and Re

the speakers.

ed President of the

tion, Granville P. Hawes

A. F. Libby Treasurer, Henry P.

fellow, Gen. O. O. Howard, Gov.

berlain of Maine and the Alu

ciation of Boston sent

Rev. Adam

at his resi

of

re-
hurch
hip, and
In this sub-
it remained for more
hundred years. Indeed it is
theory in most European nations
this day.

consequence of this change in the
of the Church and its union
the favor shown by
rs of uncon-
church

go t
says
into th
Word."
these "
were un
tyrannou
contrary
thority t
not to b
They
anti-ch
free pe
nant c
fellow
ays

The Shadow of the Cross.

Oppressed with noon-day's scorching heat,
I to yonder cross I flee;
Beneath its shelter take my rest;
No shade like this for me!

Beneath that cross clear waters burst,
A fountain sparkling free;
And there I quench my desert thirst,
No spring like this for me!

A stranger here I pitch my tent
Beneath this spreading tree:
Here shall my pilgrim life be spent;
No home like this for me!

For burdened ones a resting-place
Beside that cross I see;
Here I cast off my weariness;
No rest like this for me!

Sower Divine.

Sower divine!
Sow the good seed in me,
Seed for eternity.
'Tis a rough barren soil,
Yet by Thy care & toil,
Make it a fruitful field,
An hundred fold to yield.
Sower divine,
Plough up this heart of mine!

Sower divine!
Let not this barren clay
Lead Thee to turn away;
Let not my fruitlessness
Provoke Thee not to bless;
Let not this field be dry:
Refresh it from on high.
Sower divine,
Water this heart of mine!

He has come.

Unto us a child is born!
Ne'er has earth beheld a morn
Among all the morn's of time,
Half so glorious in it's prime.

Unto us a Son is given!
He has come from God's own heaven,
Bringing with Him from above,
Holy peace & holy love.

He has come! the Prince of Peace,
Come to bid our sorrows cease;
Come to scatter with His light,
All the shadows of our night.

He has come! the Christ of God
Left, for us, His glad abode;
Stooping from His throne of bliss
To this darksome wilderness.

Jesus my Shepherd.

Jesus my Shepherd is,
'Twas He that loved my soul;
'Twas He that washed me in His blood,
'Twas He that made me whole.
'Twas He that sought the lost,
That found the wandering sheep;
'Twas He that brought me to the fold,
'Tis He that still doth keep.

I was a wandering sheep,
I would not be controlled:
But now I love my Shepherd's voice,
I love, I love the fold!
I was a wayward child,
I once preferred to roam,
But now I love my Father's voice,
I love, I love His home.

Thó rich He became poor.

Jesus, whom angel-hosts adore,
Became a man of griefs for me;
In love thó rich, becoming poor,
That I, thró Him, enriched might be.

Thó Lord of all, above, below,
He went to Olivet for me;
There drank my cup of wrath & woe,
When bleeding in Gethsemane.

The ever-blessed Son of God,
Went up to Calvary for me;
There overcame my enemies,—
There won the glorious victory.

"It's finished all; the veil is rent,
The welcome sure, the access free.
Now, then, we leave our banishment,
O Father, to return to Thee!

It doth not yet appear what we shall be.

The gems of earth are within
Her silent unwrought mines;
There hide they all unknown, unseen;
No sparkle upward shines.

The stars of heaven, how few & wan
Are all we see below
Compared with what remain unseen,
Beyond all vision now!

So with the heaven of better stars,
Of which there are but signs;
So with the stores of wisdom, hid
In everlasting mines.

For what we shall in that day be,
It doth not yet appear;
But when we see Him as He is,
We shall His likeness wear.

31

I lay my wants on Jesus.

I lay my wants on Jesus;
All fullness dwells in Him:
He heals all my diseases,
He doth my soul redeem.
I lay my griefs on Jesus,
My burdens & my cares;
He from them all releases,
He all my sorrows shares.

I rest my soul on Jesus,
This weary soul of mine;
His right hand me embraces,
I on his breast recline.
I love the name of Jesus,
Immanuel, Christ, the Lord;
Like fragrance on the breezes,
His name abroad is poured.

I long to be like Jesus,
Meek, loving, lowly, mild.
I long to be like Jesus,
The Father's holy child.
I long to be with Jesus,
Amid the heavenly throng,
To sing with saints his praises,—
To learn the angels' song.

The Voice from Galilee.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
Come unto Me & rest;
Lay down, thou weary one, lay down
Thy head upon My breast.
I came to Jesus as I was,
Weary, & worn, & sad,
I found in Him a resting-place,
And He has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
Behold, I freely give
The living water,—thirsty one,
Stoop down, & drink, & live.
I came to Jesus, & I drank
Of that life-giving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
And now I live in Him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
I am this dark world's light;
Look unto Me, thy morn shall rise,
And all thy day be bright.
I looked to Jesus, & I found
In Him my Star, my Sun,
And in that light of life I'll walk,
Till travelling days are done.

The River of God.

Fresh from the throne of Godhead,
Bright in its crystal gleam,
Bursts out the living fountain,—
Swells on the living stream.
Blessèd river,
Let me ever
Feast my eye on thee!

Stream of true life & gladness,
Spring of all health & peace;
No harps by thee hang silent,
Nor happy voices cease.
Tranquil river,
Let me ever
Sit & sing by thee!

River of God, I greet thee,
Not now afar, but near;
My soul to thy still waters
Hastes in its thirstings here.
Holy river,
Let me ever
Drink of only thee!

34

Be True.

Thou must be true thyself,
If thou the truth wouldst teach;
Thy soul must overflow, if thou
Another's soul wouldst reach.
It needs the overflow of heart
To give the lips full speech.

Think truly, & thy thoughts
Shall the world's famine feed.
Speak truly, & each word of thine
Shall be a fruitful seed;
Live truly, & thy life shall be
A great & noble creed.

Up between the Stars.

Up between the stars
Spreads night's tranquil blue,
Not one ruffle, not one wrinkle there
Blots the changeless hue.
Storms of earth, for earth are given,
But they reach not heaven!

To that heaven I go,
To that Starland bright,
Where the sea is ever smooth & fair,
And the sky all bright,
Never heavy, pale, or dull,—
Starland beautiful!

Therefore am I calm,
Peace & love within.
That clear light that on me gently falls,
Casts out fear & sin.
As my home above is, so
Am I now below.

The World deceitful.

O world, with all thy smiles & loves,
With all thy song & wine,
What mockery of human hearts,
What treachery is thine!

O streams of earthly love & joy,
On whose green banks we dwell,
Glowming in beauty to the eye,
Ye promise fair & well!

Ye charm the sunbeams from the air,
The fragrance from the flowers,
The blossoms from the budding tree,
The wealth of summer hours.

Ye bid us come & take them all,
From your enchanted blue;
Ye tell us but to stoop & taste
The joy, & scent, & hue.

Ye lure us, & we venture in,
Cheated by sun & smiles;
Ye tempt us, & we brave your depths,
Won by your winning wiles.

Too deep & strong for us! We glide
Down your deceiving wave;
Like men by siren song beguiled
On to a siren grave.

Great Truths.

Great truths are greatly won: not found by chance,
Nor wafted on the breath of summer dream;
But grasped in the great struggle of the soul,
Hard buffeting with adverse wind & stream.

Not in the general mart, 'mid corn & wine;
Not in the merchandise of gold & gems;
Not in the world's gay hall of midnight mirth;
Nor 'mid the blaze of regal diadems:

But in the day of conflict, fear, & grief,
When the strong hand of God, put forth in might,
Ploughs up the subsoil of the stagnant heart,
And brings the imprisoned truth-seed to the light.

Truth from the troubled spirit, in hard hours
Of weakness, solitude, perchance of pain,
Truth springs, like harvest from the well-ploughed field;
And the soul feels it has not wept in vain.

Turn & live.

Wilt thou the life from heaven
Reject? the life so freely given;
Wilt thou choose sin & tears
Through everlasting years?

Wilt thou despise the love
Of Him who stooped from joy above
To shame on earth, for thee,
That He might set thee free?

Wilt thou not seek God's face?
Wilt thou not turn & own His grace?
Wilt thou not take the heaven
So freely to thee given?

Bright Visions.

Surely yon heaven where angels see God's face,
Is not so distant as we deem
From this low earth. 'Tis but a little space,
The narrow crossing of a slender stream;
'Tis but a veil, which winds might blow aside:
Yes, these are all that saints on earth divide
From the bright dwelling of the glorified,
The land of which I dream.

These ocean waves, in their unmeasured sweep,
Are brighter, bluer than they seem;
True image here of the celestial deep,
Fed from the fullness of the unfailing stream,—
Heaven's glassy sea of everlasting rest,—
With not a breath to stir its silent breast!
The sea that bears the land where all are blest,
The land of which I dream.

This life of ours, these lingering years of earth,
Are briefer, swifter than they seem;
A little while, & the great second birth
Of time shall come, the prophet's ancient theme!
Then He, the King, the Judge, at length shall come,
And, for this desert where we sadly roam,
Shall give the kingdom for our endless home,
The land of which I dream.

Precious Memories.

Are there not words,—words strangely sweet,—
Thoʻts, musings, memories, strangely dear?
So lovingly the soul they greet,
So gently steal they on the ear!

Rich in old thoʻts these words appear,
Part of our being's mighty whole;
Linked with our life's strange story here,
Knit to each feeling of our soul.

Linked with some scene of sacred calm,
Of holy places, holy days;
Linked with the prayer, the hymn, the psalm,
The multitude's glad voice of praise.

Linked with the Name of names, the name
Of Him who bought us with His blood,
Who bore for us the wrath & shame,
The Virgin's Son, the Christ of God.

Savior ever near.

I feel Thine arms around,
Savior, ever near!
With Thee let me be found;
So shall I never fear,
Whatever ills abound,
Savior, ever dear!

Thine is the day & night,
Savior, ever near;
Thine is the dark & light;
Be Thou my covert here;
O shield me with Thy might,
Savior, ever dear!

And when I come to die,
Savior, ever near,
Receive my parting sigh;
And in the hour of fear,
Be to my spirit nigh,
Savior, ever dear!

Shall this life be wasted?

Shall this life of mine be wasted?
Shall this vineyard lie untilled?
Shall true joy pass by untasted,
And this soul remain unfilled?

Shall I see each fair sun waking,
And not feel it wakes for me?
Each glad morning brightly breaking,
And not feel it breaks for me?

Shall I see the roses blowing,
And not wish to bloom as they?
Holy fragrance round me throwing,
Luring others on the way?

Shall I hear the free bird singing,
In the summer's stainless sky,
Far aloft its glad flight winging,
And not seek to soar as high?

Swiftly moving, upward, onward,
Let my soul in faith be borne;
Calmly gazing skyward, sunward,
Let my eye unshrinking turn.

Thy Way, not mine.

Thy way, not mine, O Lord,
However dark it be!
Lead me by Thine own hand,
Choose out the path for me.

Smooth let it be or rough,
It will be still the best;
Winding or straight, it leads
Right onward to Thy rest.

I dare not choose my lot;
I would not, if I might:
Choose Thou for me, my God,
So shall I walk aright.

The kingdom that I seek
Is Thine; so let the way
That leads to it be Thine,
Else I must surely stray.

Not mine, not mine, the choice,
In things or great or small;
Be Thou my guide, my strength,
My wisdom & my all.

The Shepherd's Plain.

Blessed hills that heard the song
Of the glorious angel-throng,
Swelling all your slopes along.

Happy shepherds, on whose ear
Fell the tidings glad & clear,
"God to man is drawing near."

Blessed Babe of Bethlehem,
Owner of earth's diadem,
Claim & wear the radiant gem.

Scatter darkness with Thy light,
End the sorrows of our night,
Speak the word, & all is bright.

Take to Thee Thy power, & reign,
Purify this earth again;
Cleanse it from each curse & stain.

Let the day-spring from on high,
That arose in Judah's sky,
Cover earth eternally.

He spared not His Son.

Blessèd be God, our God!
Who gave for us His well-beloved Son,
His gift of gifts, all other gifts in one.
Blessèd be God, our God!

What will He not bestow?
Who freely gave this mighty gift, unbought,
Unmerited, unheeded, & unsought,—
What will He not bestow?

He spared not His Son!
'Tis this that silences each rising fear;
'Tis this that bids the hand that dispenses;
He spared not His Son!

Who shall condemn us now?
Since Christ has died, & risen, & gone above,
To plead for us at the right hand of love,
Who shall condemn us now?

'Tis God that justifies!
Who shall recall the pardon on the grave,—
Or who the broken chain of guilt replace?
'Tis God that justifies!

When shall we meet!

Meet when the spring-breeze blows,
And the gay garden blooms,
And the wide forest waves with budding green,
And the freed streamlet warbles thro' the broom,
And the clear air takes up the happy note
Of skylark, singing to the rosy down,—
Then let us meet;
And, meeting, cheer each other's weary heart
With the dear hope of everlasting Spring,
And the fair land that spreads beneath the slopes
Of the eternal hills,
Where nothing dies;
Where nothing fades,
But all is without ending or decay,—
The sky, the sun, the light,
The peace, the truth, the love,
And, above all, the joy!

Calm me, my God.

Calm me, my God, & keep me calm,
While these hot breezes blow;
Be like the night-dew's cooling balm
Upon earth's fevered brow.

Calm me, my God, & keep me calm,
Soft resting on Thy breast;
Soothe me with holy hymn & psalm,
And bid my spirit rest.

Calm me, my God, & keep me calm;
Let Thine outstretched wing
Be like the shade of Elim's palm,
Beside her desert spring.

Calm in the hour of buoyant health,
Calm in my hour of pain;
Calm in my poverty or wealth,
Calm in my loss or gain.

Calm as the ray of sun, or star,
Which storms assail in vain,
Moving unruffled thro' earth's war;
The eternal calm to gain.

Go up, my Heart.

Go up, go up, my heart,
Be not a trifler here,
Ascend above these clouds,
Dwell in a higher sphere.

Let not thy love flow out
To things so soiled & dim;
Go up to heaven & God,
Take up thy love to Him.

Waste not thy precious stores
On creature-love below;
To God that wealth belongs,
On Him that wealth bestow.

Go up, reluctant heart,
Take up thy rest above,
Arise, earth-clinging th'ots,
Ascend, my lingering love.

49

Thine only.

Here in Thy royal presence, Lord, I stand;
I give myself, my all, to Thee.
Thou hast redeemed me by Thy precious blood;
Thine only will I be.
No love but Thine, but Thine, can me relieve;
No light but Thine, but Thine, will I receive.
No light, no love, but Thine!

Take, take me as I am! Thou needst me not;
I know Thou needst me not at all.
All heaven is Thine, all earth, each morning star;
High angels wait Thy call.
I am the poorest of Thy creatures, yea,
The child of evil & dark misery;—
Yet take me as I am!

It would not cost Thee dear to bless me, Lord,
A word would do it, or a sign;
It needs no more from Thee, no more, my God;
Thy words have power divine.
And O the boundless blessedness to me!
Loved, saved, forgiven, renewed & blessed by Thee!
O speak, O speak the word!

154

No 4.

50

What is Life?

Life is the changing deep,
And I a little wave,
Rising a moment, & then passing down
Amid my fellows, to a peaceful grave:
For this is not my rest,
It is not here I can be blest.
Far from this sea of strife,
With Christ is hid my life,
With Christ, my glorious Lord,
My King & God.

Life is a well-strung lyre,
And I a wandering note,
Struck from its cunning chords, & left alone
A moment in the quivering air to float,
Then evithout echo, die,
And, upward from this earthly jarring, fly,
To join a truer note above,
In the great song of joy & love,
The never-ending, never-jarring song
Of the immortal throng;
Sung to the praise of Him
Who is at once its leader & its theme,
My Christ, my King, my God!

58

Sunset by the Sea.

I linger o'er the long wave's darkening flow;
But the cold sea-moan bids me rise & go;
And yon faint sun-glow on the quivering main
Says, Go,—to-morrow we shall meet again.

But tho' no dawn should light these faded skies;
Tho' yon expected sun should never rise,—
I have a Sun whose everlasting gold,
Lights up a day that never shall grow old.

I have a Sun within, a Sun above,
A heaven whose radiance is the joy of love.
Earth's suns may sink & rise again no more,
I need them not in that unchanging shore.

I need not miss the star-beam, if the star
Abideth, still to shine in love afar;
The gift may fade, the Giver still is mine,
With all His love, & light, & grace divine.

52

Turn & Live.

Cease, man, thy God-defying;
Cease thy best Friend to grieve;
Cease, man, thy self-relying;
Flee from the endless dying;
Swiftly thy time is flying;
Embrace the Son & live.

Give up the vain endeavor
To heal thy wounds & woes;
He is of life the Giver,
And from His cross the river
Which quenches thirst forever,
All freely to thee flows.

With gush, & gleam, & singing,
See the bright fountain rise:
For thee that fount is springing,
To thee its gladness bringing;—
Why, then, so madly clinging
To vanity & lies?

53

I Shall conquer.

Thro' Christ I know that I shall conquer,
Tho' sore & hard the fight maybe;
I know, I know I shall be more than victor,
Thro Him who won the fight for me.

I fight, not fearful of the issue,
My victory sure & near;
Yet, not the less with hand & eye all watchful,
I grasp I my buckler & my spear.

For I must fight, if I would conquer;
'Tis not by flight that fields are won;
And I must conquer, if I would inherit
The victor's joy, & crown, & throne.

70

54

He is risen.

Yes, He is risen, who is the First & Last,
Who was, & is; who liveth & was dead;
Beyond the reach of death He now has passed,
Of the one glorious Church, the glorious Head.

The tomb is empty; so ere long shall be
The tombs of all who in this Christ repose.
They died with Him who died upon the tree;
They live & rise with Him who lived & rose.

Death has not slain them; they are freed, not slain.
It is the gate of life, & not of death,
That they have entered; & the grave in vain
Has tried to stifle the immortal breath.

They are not tasting death, but taking rest,
On the same holy couch where Jesus lay,—
Soon to awake, all glorified & blest,
When day shall break, & shadows flee away.

Press on.

Not so slowly, sluggish spirit,
As if God & time would stay
For thee, the loitering dreamer,
Flinging hours & days away.
Up, & toil with all thy might,
Noon is fading into night:
Like the ever-moving wave,
We are rushing to the grave;
Like the swiftly rising dew,
Earth is passing from our view.

Not so hopeless, drooping spirit,
Yon clouds at length will rise;
And, beyond them, in the distance,
Spreads a realm of sunny skies.
God's promise standeth fast,
And the glory breaks at last;
Peace is rising out of strife,
Death is dying into life;
Up! Springs the eternal Sun,
Heaven & earth will soon be one.

The Morning comes.

The morning, the bright & the beautiful morning
Is up, & the sunshine is all on the wing,
With its fresh flush of gladness the landscape adorning,
A gladness which nothing but morning can bring.
The earth is awaking, the sky & the ocean,
The river & forest, the mountain & plain;
The city is stirring its living commotion,
And the pulse of the world is reviving again.

And we too awake, for our heavenly Father,
Who soothed us so gently to sleep on his breast,
And made the soft stillness of evening to gather
Around us, now calls us again from our rest.
But ere to our labors & duties returning,
We hasten to give Him the praise that is meet;
And, in solemn devotion, the first hours of morning,
Our freest & freshest, we lay at His feet.

57

Thy name is Love.

Thy name is Love! I hear it from yon cross;
Thy name is Love! I read it in yon tomb;
All meaner love is perishable dross,
But this shall light me thro' time's thickest gloom.

It blesses now, & shall forever bless;
It saves me now, & shall forever save;
It holds me up, in days of helplessness;
It bears me safely o'er each swelling wave.

'Tis what I know of Thee, my Lord & God,
That fills my soul with peace, my lips with song;
Thou art my health, my joy, my staff, my rod;
Leaning on Thee, in weakness I am strong.

More of Thyself, & show me every hour;
More of Thy glory, O my God & Lord;
More of Thyself in all Thy grace & power,
More of Thy love & truth, Incarnate Word!

58.

God Speaks.

Thou speakest, & I hear!
What gracious heavenly cheer
  Is in Thy gentle speech, my God!
  How it lifts off the heavy load
Which bows my weary head,
And checks me in my speed,
    My gracious God & Lord!

I know Thou art not far,
My God, from me; yon star
  Speaks of Thy nearness, & its rays
  Fall on me like Thy touch: O raise
These heavy eyes of mine
To see Thy face, even Thine,
    My Father & my God!

Thou wilt be nearer yet,
And one day I shall get
  The fuller vision of Thy face,
  In all its perfect light & grace;
Seeing Thee as Thou art,
Bearing in heaven my part,
    My blessed King & God!

Jesus, Sun and Shield.

Jesus, Sun & Shield art Thou;
Sun & Shield forever!
Never canst Thou cease to shine,
Cease to guard us, never.
Cheer our steps as on we go,
Come between us & the foe.

Jesus, Bread & Wine art Thou,
Wine & Bread forever!
Never canst Thou cease to feed,
Or refresh us, never.
Feed we still on bread divine,
Drink we still this heavenly wine.

Jesus, Love & Life art Thou,
Life & Love forever!
N'er to quicken shall Thou cease,
Or to love us, never.
All of life & love we need
Is in Thee, in Thee, indeed.

The Love of God.

O wide-embracing, wondrous love!
We read thee in the sky above;
We read thee in the earth below;
In seas that swell, & streams that flow.

We read thee in the flowers, the trees;
The freshness of the fragrant breeze;
The songs of birds upon the wing;
The joy of summer & of spring.

We read thee best in Him who came
To bear for us the cross of shame;
Sent by the Father from on high,
Our life to live, our death to die.

O love of God, our shield & stay,
Thro' all the perils of our way;
Eternal Love, in thee we rest,
Forever safe, forever blessed!

61

Heaven unfading.

Heaven were no heaven, if its dear light could fade;
If its fair glory could hereafter wane;
If its sweet skies could suffer stain or shade,
Or its soft breezes waft one note of pain.

No joy is true, save that which hath no end;
No life is true, save that which liveth ever;
No health is sound, save that which God doth send;
No love is real, save that which changeth never.

And what would be the city of the just,
If time could shake its battlements, or age
Could crumble down its palaces to dust,
Or with its towers victorious warfare wage?

But no. Its beauty is forever vernal,
Its glory is the glory of its king,
Undying, incorruptible, eternal,
And ever new the songs its dwellers sing.

O heaven of heavens, how true thy life must be!
O home of God, how excellent thy light!
O long, long summer of eternity,
Bright noon of angels, ever clear & bright!

62

The Marriage of the Lamb.

Long, long deferred, now come at last,
The Lamb's glad wedding-day;
The guests are gathering to the feast,
The seats in heavenly order placed,
The royal throne above the rest:
How bright the new array!

The gems are gleaming from the roof,
Like stars in night's round dome;
The festal wreaths are hanging there,
The festal fragrance fills the air,
And flowers of heaven, divinely fair,
Unfold their happy bloom.

Ascend, Beloved, to the feast;
Make haste, thy day is come;
Thrice blessed are they the Lamb doth call
To share the heavenly festival,
In the new Salem's palace hall,
Our everlasting home!

Shake off from us the Night.

Shake off from us the night,
O God! as sons of light
Prepare us for the day,
That, at the first faint ray
Of morn, in eastern skies,
We may with joy arise.

What tho' night's silence still
Broods over plain & hill;
These shades shall soon be past;
The Day-Star comes at last,
And we shall welcome Him
With our clear morning hymn.

64

Bright feet of May.

Trip along, bright feet o' May,
Trip along from day to day;
Trip along in sun & showers,
Trip along & wake the flowers;
Trip along the breezy hills,
Trip beside the prattling rills.

Trip along the budding wood,
O'er the moorland solitude.
Trip through garden field & brake,
Trip beside the gleaming lake;
Revel in the star-loved dew,
Drink the clear sky's summer blue.

Trip along, & as you move,
Tell the Springing earth of love;
Tell of love the sunlight free,
Tell of love the bounding sea,—
The love of Him who gave to May
The sweetness of its smiling day.
Trip along, in light & song,
Trip away, all fresh & gay,
Trip away, bright feet of May.

59

65

Sing a new song at morn.

Sing a new song at morn!
Join the glad woods & hills;
Join the fresh winds, & seas, & plains,
Join the bright flowers & rills.

Sing thy first song to God!
Not to thy fellow man;
Not to the creatures of His hand,
But to the glorious One.

Take thy first walk with God!
Let Him go forth with thee;
By stream, or sea, or mountain-path,
Seek still His company.

Thy first transaction be
With God Himself above;
So shall thy business prosper well,
And all the day be love.

Look up beyond these clouds!
Thither thy pathway lies;
Mount up, away, & linger not,
Thy goal is yonder skies.

180

No. 5.

66

Peace with God.

'Tis everlasting peace!
  Sure as Jehovah's name:
'Tis stable as His steadfast throne,
  Forevermore the same.

The clouds may go & come,
  And storms may sweep my sky,
This blood-sealed friendship changes not,
  The cross is ever nigh.

My love is oft times low,
  My joy still ebbs & flows,
But peace with Him remains the same,
  No change Jehovah knows.

I change, He changes not,
  The Christ can never die;
His love, not mine, the resting-place,
  His truth, not mine, the tie.

I know he liveth now,
  At God's right hand above,
I know the throne on which He sits;
  I know His truth & love!

-7

67

Show me Thy Tears.

O Son of God, who comest from above
To take my flesh, to bear my bitter cross;
Show me Thy tears, Thy tears of tender love,
That I for Thee may count all gain but loss:

That I may know Thee, & by Thee be known;
That I may love Thee, & may taste Thy love;
That I may win Thee, & in Thee a crown;
That I may rest & reign with Thee above.

Show me the tears, the tears of tender love,
Wept over Salem in her evil day;
When grace & righteousness together strove,
And grace at length to righteousness gave way.

65

The great Message.

Apostles of the risen Christ, go forth!
Let love compel.
Go, & in risen power proclaim His worth,—
O'er every region of this fallen earth,—
His glory tell.

Tell how he lived, & toiled, & wept below;
Tell all His love.
Tell the dread wonders of His awful woe;
Tell how He fought our fight & smote our foe,
Then rose above!

Tell how in weakness He was crucified,
But rose in power;
Went up on high, accepted, glorified:—
News of His victory spread far & wide,
From hour to hour.

Tell how His kingdom shall thro ages stand,
And never cease;
Spreading like sunshine over every land—
All nations bowing to His high command,
Great Prince of peace!

The Lord needeth thee.

Jesus, Thou needest me,
Even me, Thou Light divine!
O Son of God, Thou needest me,
Thou needest souls like mine.

This evil, froward soul
Needeth a love like Thine;
A love like Thine, O loving Christ,
Needeth a soul like mine.

Thy fullness, Son of God,
Thus needy maketh Thee;
Thy glory, O Thou glorious One,
Seeketh its rest in me.

It was Thy need of me
That brought Thee from above;
It is my need of Thee, O Lord,
That draws me to Thy love.

The Convent.

This is not home!
  Here is no balm
For stricken hearts; no calm
For fevered souls; no love
For minds diseased; the impure
Becomes impurer in this stagnant air;
My cell becomes my temple & my snare,
And vainer dreams than e'er I dreamt before
Crowd in at each low door.
And have I fled, my God, from Thee,
From Thy glad love & liberty;
And left the road where blessings fall like light,
For self-made by-paths shaded o'er with night?
  O lead me back, my God,
  To the forsaken road,
  Life's common beat, that there,
  E'en in the midst of toil & care,
  I may find Thee,
  And in Thy love be free!

'Tis the Beloved calls.

'Tis the Beloved from the city calls!
O joy at last to hear the song of day!
It steals all sweetly down from these bright walls,
And bids these cloudy tho'ts & dreams give way.

'Tis the Beloved from the palace calls!
He bids me quit these cells of crumbling clay,
I doff the sad sable of these earthly pall,
And join the joy of the immortal lay.

'Tis the beloved from the feast-board calls!
The Bridegroom bids His bride no longer stay;
Upward He beckons to the royal halls.
To bask in royal love & light for aye.

O call Beloved! heavenly Bridegroom, call!
Am I not listening for Thy long-loved voice?
O keep not silence! call Beloved, call,
And bid this longing heart at length rejoice.

Ascription.

To Him who formed the heaven of heavens,
Where His glory dwelleth,
Who lighteth up each star of even,
Which that glory telleth;
Who stretched that arch of blue above,
That plain of blue below;
Who built the everlasting hills,
And bid the rivers flow;
To Him who made us what we are,
And loved us all so well,
Whose thoughts are thoughts of boundless grace,
Beyond what lip can tell,—
To Him, to Him be praise,
Now, & thro' endless days!

Mine & Thine.

All that I <u>was</u>,—my sin, my guilt,
My death, was all my own;
All that I <u>am</u>, I owe to Thee,
My gracious God alone.

The darkness of my former state,
The bondage, all was mine;
The good in which I now rejoice
Is Thine, & only Thine.

Thy grace first made me feel my sin,
It taught me to believe;
Then, in believing, peace I found,
And now I live, I live.

All that I am, e'en here on earth,
All that I hope to be,
When Jesus comes, & glory dawns,
I owe it, Lord to Thee.

74

A perfect Creed.

I ask a perfect creed!
O that to me were given,
The teaching that leads none astray,
The scholarship of heaven!

Calm faith that grasps the word
Of Him who cannot lie;
That hears alone the voice divine,
Tho' crowds are standing by.

Truth which contains true rest;
Which is the grave of doubt;
Which ends uncertainty & gloom,
And casts the falsehood out.

O True One, give me truth!
And let it quench in me
The thirst of this long-craving heart,
And set my spirit free.

The three Weepers:

Sorrow, Joy, and Love.

Sorrow weeps!
And drowns its bitterness in tears:
My child of sorrow,
Weep out the fullness of thy passionate grief,
And drown in tears
The bitterness of lonely years.
God gives the rain & sunshine mild,
And both are best, my child!

Joy weeps!
And overflows its banks with tears:
My child of joy,
Weep out the gladness of thy pent-up heart,
And let thy glistening eyes
Run over in their ecstacies;
Life needeth joy; but from on high
Descends what cannot die!

Love weeps!
And feeds its silent life with tears:
My child of love,
Pour out the riches of thy yearning heart,
And, like the air of even,
Give & take back the dew of heaven;
And let that longing heart of thine
Feed upon love divine!

Creation in earnest.

O ever earnest sun!
Unwearied in thy work,
Unhalting in thy course,
Unlingering in thy path,
Teach me thy earnest ways,
That mine may be a life of
steadfast work & praise.

O ever earnest stars!
Unchanging in your light,
Unfaltering in your race,
Unswerving in your round,
Teach me your earnest ways,
That mine may be a life of steadfast work & praise.

O ever earnest earth!
Doing thy Maker's work,
Fulfilling His great will,
With all thy morns & eves,
Teach me thy earnest ways,
That mine may be a life of steadfast work & praise.

77

I go to Life.

I go to life & not to death,
From darkness to life's native sky;
I go from sickness & from pain,
To health & immortality.

I go from chains to liberty,
These fetters will be broken soon;
Forth over Eden's fragrant fields,
I walk beneath a glorious noon.

For toil there comes the crowned rest;
Instead of burdens, eagle's wings;
And I Ken I, this life-long thirst
Shall quench at everlasting springs.

Let our farewell, then, be tearless,
Since I bid farewell to tears;
Write this day of my departure
Festive in your coming years.

'63

Thy Will be done.

Thy will, O Lord, Thy will be done,
Altho' my will be crossed;
'Tis good to see my plans o'erthrown,
My ways in Thine all lost.

Whate'er Thy purpose be, O Lord,
In things or great or small,
Let each minutest part be done,
That Thou may'st still be all.

In all the little things of life,
Thyself, Lord, may I see;
In little & in great alike,
Reveal Thy love to me.

So shall my undivided life
To Thee, my God, be given;
And all this earthly course below
Be one dear path to heaven.

I'm Homeward bound.

Dropping down life's troubled river,
To the tranquil, tranquil shore;
Dropping down the misty river,
Time's willow-shaded river,
To the spring-embosomed shore,
Where the sweet light shineth ever,
And the sun goes down no more!
O wondrous, wondrous shore!

Dropping down the eddying river,
With a Helmsman true & tried;
Dropping down the perilous river,
Mortality's dark river,
With a sure & heavenly Guide;
Even Him who, to deliver
My soul from death hath died!
O Helmsman, true & tried!

Dropping down the rapid river,
To the dear & deathless land;
Dropping down the well-known river,
Life's swollen & rushing river,
To the resurrection-land;
Where the dying live forever,
And the dead have joined the band!
O fair & blessed land!

Living long.

He liveth long who liveth well,
All other life is short & vain;
He liveth longest who can tell
Of living most for heavenly gain.

Waste not thy being; back to Him
Who freely gave it, freely give;
Else is that being but a dream,
'Tis but to be, & not to live.

Fill up each hour with what will last;
Buy up the moments as they go;
The life above, when this is past,
Is the ripe fruit of life below.

Sow love, & taste its fruitage pure;
Sow peace, & reap its harvest bright;
Sow sunbeams on the rock & moor,
And find a harvest-home of light.

81

Our Lucy.

All night we watched the ebbing life,
As if its flight to stay;
Till as the dawn was coming up,
Our last hope passed away.

She was the music of our home,
A day that knew no night,
The fragrance of our garden-bower,
A thing all smiles & light.

Above the couch we bent & prayed,
In the half-lighted room;
As the bright hues of infant life
Sank slowly into gloom.

Each flutter of the pulse we marked,
Each quiver of the eye;
To the dear lips our ear we laid,
To catch the last low sigh.

At last the fluttering pulse stood still,
The death-frost thro' her clay
Stole slowly; and, as morn came up,
Our sweet flower passed away!

The form remained, but there was now
No soul our love to share;
No warm responding lip to kiss;
For Lucy was not there.

No. 6.

82

Come, heavenly Spirit.

Come heavenly Spirit, come!
  Kind Father of the poor;
The Giver & the Gift,
  Enter my lowly door!
Be guest within my heart,
Nor ever hence depart.

Ours is a world of wiles,
  Of beauteous vanities;
Come, & in us destroy
  Its fair impurities,
Lest, by its tempting arts,
Ivoin Thee it steal our hearts!

Unveil Thy glorious self
  To us, O Holy One,
That Thou into our hearts
  May shine, Thyself alone!
Saved from earth's vanities,
To Thee we long to rise.

30

The Day is gone.

The day is gone!
I bless Thee, mighty One.
'Tis evening, & I cry,
O Savior, be Thou nigh.
This night from ill me keep,
Preserve me while I sleep.

Light to these eyes afford,
O Christ, my God & Lord!
Dispel my soul's death-gloom,
Lest I should sleep in death eve day,
Lest my great foe should boast & say,
I have him evermore!

Defend my soul, O God!
For snares beset my road,
Thou art my help alone.
Deliver me from sin & fear,
Preserve me in my peril here,
O good & gracious One!

84

Give me the lowly Heart.

Give me the lowly heart,
Cast out each thót of pride;
Let gentleness and love come in,
And as my guests abide.

Thy will, not mine, be done;
I would not choose my own,
But let me ever, ever be,
Thy servant, Lord, alone.

Jesus, to Thee I flee,
Jesus, Thy cross I clasp;
Save me from Satan's hellish power;
O pluck me from his grasp.

So shall I praise thee, Lord,
And Thy great name adore,
With Father & with Spirit one,
Forever, evermore.

-

Gold.

Gold filleth none!
That which has life
Alone can fill the living;
That which has love
Alone can fill the loving.
Gold is not life or love;
It is not rest or joy;
It withers up the heart,
It shrivels up the soul;
It filleth coffers,—hearts it cannot fill.

Gold healeth none!
It has no balm for wounds;
It binds no broken hearts;
It smooths no ruffled brow;
It calms no inner storm.
It cannot buy from heaven
One drop of rain or dew;
One beam of sun or star;
Far less the heavenly shower,
Or light that has the healing in its wings.

86

I rest on Love divine.

Not what these hands have done
Can save this guilty soul;
Not what this toiling flesh has borne
Can make my spirit whole.

Not what I feel or do,
Can give me peace with God;
Not all my prayers, & sighs, & tears,
Can bear my awful load.

Thy work alone, O Christ,
Can ease this weight of sin;
Thy blood alone, O Lamb of God,
Can give me peace within.

Thy love to me, O God,
Not mine, O Lord, to Thee,
Can rid me of this dark unrest,
And set my spirit free.

I praise the God of grace;
I trust His truth & might;
He calls me His, I call Him mine,
My God, my joy, my light.

'Tis He who saveth me,
And freely pardon gives;
I love, because He loveth me,
I live because He lives.

H. L.

87

Sabbath Hymn.

Glory to the glorious One,
Good & great, our God alone,
Who this day hath glorified,
First & best of all beside,
Making it for every clime,
Of all times the sweetest time.

From the beginning, day of days,
Set apart for holy praise,
When He bade the willing earth
All its hidden stores bring forth:
When He gave the shining heaven,
Then to man this day was given.

On this day the Son of God
Left His three days' dark abode,
In the greatness of His might,
Rising to the upper light.
On this day the Church puts on
Glory, beauty, robe, & crown.

On this day of days the Lord,
Faithful to His ancient word,
On His burning chariot borne,
Shall in majesty return.
King of kings He comes in might,
From His heavenly home of light.

Summer of the Heart.

O summer of the silent heart!
How rich the song your sunshine sings;
O luxury of tranquil thought,
This dreamy hour of sunshine brings!

O sunshine of the laughing lip,
Soften your colors for a day;
Take on this mild & mellow light,
Mingle the quiet with the gay.

O shadows of the pensive heart!
Glow into sunlight, as the love
Comes down in ever-gushing streams,
From the great heart of God above.

The shadow & the sunlight thus
God tempers for us here below;
Mixing for us the joy & fear,
The safest cup for man below.

89

Use me, my God.

Make use of me, my God!
Let me not be forgot;
A broken vessel cast aside,
One whom Thou needest not.

I am Thy creature, Lord,
And made by hands divine;
And I am part, however mean,
Of this great world of Thine.

Thou usest all Thy works,
The weakest things that be;
Each has a service of its own,
For all things wait on Thee.

Thou usest the high stars;
The tiny drops of dew;
The giant rock, & little bill:—
My God, O use me too.

Thou usest tree & flower,
The rivers vast & strong;
The eagle great, the little bird,
That sings upon the wall.

All things do serve Thee here,—
All creatures great & small:
Make use of me, of me, my God,
The meanest of them all!

The Master's Touch.

In the still air the music lies unheard;
In the rough marble beauty hides unseen;
To make the music & the beauty, needs
The master's touch, the sculptor's chisel keen.

Great Master, touch us with Thy skilful hand:
Let not the music that is in us die;
Great Sculptor, hew & polish us, nor let
Hidden & lost, Thy form within us lie.

Spare not the stroke; do with us as Thou will,
Let there be nought unfinished, broken, marred;
Complete Thy purpose, that we may become
Thy perfect image, O our God & Lord.

Be happy in thy God.

Be happy in thy God;
On Him cast every load;
To Him bring every care,—
To Him pour out thy prayer.

Rest in His holy love,
Which daily from above,
Like His own sunlight comes,
Down on earth's myriad homes.

Put thou thy hand in His!
Ah! this is safety; this
Is the soul's true relief,
Freedom from care & grief.

Be thou His happy child,
Loved, blest, & reconciled;
Walk calmly on, each hour,
Safe in His love & power.

Work for Him gladly here,
Without a grudge or fear;
Thy labor shall be light,
And all thy days be bright!

Abide with us.

'Tis evening now!
O Savior, will not Thou
Enter my home & heart?
Now ever hence depart,
E'en when the morning breaks,
And earth again awakes?

The earth is old!
Its air grows dull & cold;
Its western sky is wan,
Its youth & joy are gone:-
O Jesus, be our light,
When o'er us falls the night.

Our cottage will be lone,
When the great Sun is gone:
O Savior, come, & bless;
Come, share our loneliness;
We need a Comforter,-
Take up Thy dwelling here.

Mighty Comforter.

Mighty Comforter, to Thee
In our feebleness we flee;
Unveil Thy gracious face,
Spread out all Thy wondrous grace.

Loosen of the bonds of sin,
O make haste & enter in;
Break each link till there remains
Not one fragment of our chains.

Loving Spirit, come, O come!
Find in us Thy endless home;
Find in this our world below,
A dwelling for Thy glory now.

Holy Light, upon us shine,
With Thy energy divine:
Heavenly Brightness, break Thou forth
Over this benighted earth.

With the eternal Father, one,
One with the eternal Son;
Eternal Spirit, Thee we praise,
Now, & thro' eternal days.

Renew us, Holy One.

Renew us, Holy One,
  Purge us in Thy fire;
Refine us, heavenly flame,
  Consume each low desire;
Prepare us as a sacrifice,
Well pleasing in Thine eyes.

Far from Thee we have lived,
  Exiles from home & Thee;
Bring us back in love,
  End our captivity.
Be Thou the way we wend,
Be Thou that way's blest end.

Glory to the Father be,
  Glory to the equal Son;
Glory to the Spirit be,
  Glory to the Three-in-one.
Spirit, 'tis Thy breath divine
Makes these hearts to burn & shine.

96

Sea of Glass.

A sea of glass I saw,
Mingled with fire it seemed;
Upon it stood the conquerors,
The host of the redeemed.

They had the harps of God,
And a new song they sung;
The song of Moses & the Lamb,
I heard from every tongue.

Right, great, and marvellous,
Lord God of might they cry,
Thy works are: just & true Thy ways,
Thee King of saints most high.

Who shall not fear Thee Lord,
And Thee, Jehovah, own?
Who shall not glorify Thy name,
The only holy One?

All nations now shall come,
And to Thee homage yield;
For all Thy righteous judgments, Lord,
Are now at last revealed.

97

Shine on.

Shine on sweet sun, & let my day
Grow brighter, as the gentle hours,
Moving in silent love, draw up
The incense of the noon-day flowers.

I need not fear the awful night,
That prophet-pens foretell as near;
For me There is no cloud nor night,
My firmament is fair & clear.

It may be that the wrath may burst,
And nations drink the cup of ill;
I need not tremble at the storm,
My summer shall be summer still.

Like the fair stars my peace shall be;
My life is hid with Christ in God;
My anchor is within the veil,
And there my soul hath her abode.

The dark to me is only bright,
Calm as the sea of glass, time's flood;
All grief is joy, & pain is ease,
And evil shall be only good.

No. 7.

God in all.

Thee in the loving bloom of morn,
Thee in the purple eve we see;
All things in heaven & earth, O Lord.
Live & move in Thee.

Thee in the spring's fresh joy & life;
Thee in the May-dew's timid glow;
Thee in the autumn's mellow blush;
Thee in winter's snow!

Life is not life without Thee, Lord;
Thou fillst creation's wondrous whole;
Light is not light without Thy love;
Blank this boundless soul!

Without Thee day is darkest night;
With Thee the deepest night is day;
Earth's only sun, O Lord, art Thou,—
Shine our night away.

Give to me every day & hour
Some newer, holier, happier ray;
The earnest, to my longing heart,
Lord, of Thy true day!

None like Jesus.

None like Him of the sons of men,
Of all that noble be;
Among ten thousand of the fair,
The fairest He!

Yea, altogether lovely He;
All-perfect, like Him none.
Of excellent the chiefest He,
The Spotless One.

His is the name of names in heaven,
The name of names on earth;
I glory in that glorious name
Of matchless worth.

100

The good Shepherd.

He knows His sheep;
He counts them, & He calleth them by name:
He goes before,—
They follow us He leads, thro' flood or flame.

He leads them out
Into the pastures green, by waters still:
He leads them in,
And guards them safe within the fold from ill.

No want is theirs.
Good Shepherd, hasten Thou that glorious day,
When we shall all
In the one fold abide with Thee for aye.

Thou in the midst;
And we delivered from all fear & sin:
No hunger more;
No thirst nor heat upon these plains of green.

O Lamb of God!
True Shepherd & true Lamb, Thou both in one!
Us lead, us feed,
Till all, all our wanderings done, we reach the throne.

101

We walk by Faith.

Happy in Him who hath loved us & bought us,
Rich in the life which He gives to His own;
Filled with the peace passing all understanding,
Never less lonely than just when alone.

Safe in His strength, in His love ever happy,
What are the tremblings & tossings of time?
Firm in His grasp, to His arm ever clinging,
Upward, still upward, we buoyantly climb.

Jesus, to Thee we look, Savior Almighty,
Jesus, on Thee we rest, happy & free;
Jesus, on Thee we feed, - bread of the hungry;
Jesus, our all, lo, we lean upon Thee.

What are the shadows around us still floating,
Sunshine is glowing all brightly above;
Heed not the heights of the cliffs we are climbing,
From them, we gaze on the land that we love.

Lead on, our Captain, we follow, we follow,
Life is no slumber, our battle no dream;
Lift up Thy banner, we rally, we rally,
Wave high Thy sword, we press on in its gleam.

3B

Home above.

Upward where the stars are burning,
Silent, silent, in their turning
Round the never-changing pole;
Upward where the sky is brightest,
Upward where the blue is lightest,
Lift I now my longing soul.

Far above that arch of gladness,
Far beyond these clouds of sadness,
Are the many mansions fair.
Far from pain, & sin & folly,
In that palace of the holy,
I would find my mansion there!

Where the glory brightly dwelleth,
Where the new song sweetly swelleth,
And the discord never comes;
Where life's stream is ever laving,
And the palm is ever waving:-
That must be the home of homes.

Where the Lamb on high is seated,
By ten thousand voices greeted
Lord of lords, & King of kings.
Son of man, they crown, they crown Him,
Son of God they own, they own Him,
With His name the palaces rings.

The Son of God has come.

Rejoice, our God has come!
In love & lowliness.
The Son of God has come,
The sons of men to bless.
God with us now descends to dwell,
God in our flesh, Immanuel.

Praise ye the Word made flesh!
True God, true Man is He.
Praise ye the Christ of God!
To Him all glory be.
Praise ye the Lamb that once was slain,
Praise ye the King that comes to reign.

The Trumpet sounds.

Sounds the trumpet from afar!
Soldiers of the holy war,
Rise; for you your Captain calls;
Rise, the foe is at the gates.

Banner of the blessed tree,—
Round it's glory gather ye!
Warriors of the crown & cross,
What is earthly gain or loss?

King of glory, Thee alone,
King of kings, Thy name we own;
With Thy banner overhead,
Not ten thousand foes we dread.

More than conquerors even now,
With the war-sweat on our brow;
Onward o'er the well-marked road,
March we as the host of God.

Royal is the sword we wield;
Royal is our battle-field;
Royal is our victory;
Royal shall our triumph be!

105

Our Battle.

How goes the fight with thee?
The life-long battle with all evil things?
Thine no low strife, & thine no selfish aim,
It is the war of giants & of kings.

Goes the fight well with thee?
This living fight with death & death's dark power?
Is not the Stronger than the strong one near,
With thee, & for thee in the fiercest hour?

Dread not the din & smoke,
The stifling poison of the fiery air;
Courage! it is the battle of thy God;
Go, & for Him learn how to do & dare.

What tho' ten thousand fall,
And the red field with the dear dead be strown,
Grasp but more bravely thy bright shield & sword,-
Fight to the last, altho' thou fight'st alone.

Say not the fight is long;-
'Tis but one battle, & the fight is o'er;
No second warfare mars thy victory,
And the one triumph is for evermore!

Zion's Day-Spring.

Thy light is come!
Zion, arise & shine.
On thee has risen at length
The glory of the Lord,
The glory of thy God.

Lo, darkness covers earth,
With universal veil;
Thick darkness overspreads
The nations near & far,
Darkness that may be felt.

On thee, thy glorious sun,
Jehovah, shall arise;
O'er thee, when all is night,
His glory shall be seen,
Bright herald of the dawn.

To thee the nations crowd,
And in thy light they walk;
Zion, to thee they look,
Kings to thy brightness come,
Great day-spring of the world.

The cup of Sorrow.

Dear cup of sorrow,
I would own thee!
And speak thy praises true,
As only those can do,
Who have known thee.
Sweet & bitter joined,
Medicine of soul & mind,
Health in thee let me find.

Tho' thou art bitter,
Love is in thee:
Pledge of the brighter wine,
Let my pale lips touch thine;
For within thee
Are the blessings seven,
O cup O wine of heaven,
At the high banquet given!

The Christian's Sword.

For the warfare gird it on,
Nor until the fight be won,
And the day's sharp work is done,
Lay it by!

Strike for God, & let each blow
Tell on Satan's overthrow;
Be the ruin of a foe:
Strike for God!

Sword of God, thy power we hail:
He who has Thee cannot fail;
He who trusts Thee must prevail,
Mighty Sword!

Till the warfare shall be done,
Till the victory be won,
Till the triumph be begun,
Grasp we Thee!

Finish thy work.

Finish thy work, the time is short,
The sun is in the west;
The night is coming down, till then
Think not of rest.

Yes, finish all thy work, then rest;
Till then, rest never;
The rest prepared for thee of God,
Is rest forever.

Finish thy work, then take thy harp,
Give praise to God above;
Sing a new song of thankful joy,
And endless love.

Give thanks to Him who held thee up,
In all thy path below;
Who made thee faithful to the death,
And crowns thee now.

Palestine.

Cradle of life & birthland of the day,
How the heart turns to thee in silent hours,
As to the home of true nativity!
Truer than this far western shore of ours.

Six thousand summers, each a golden dream,
Have flung their glowing mantles o'er thy hills;
Myriads of mornings, each a ruby gleam,
Have flushed in beauty o'er thy lowly rills.

O land of morning, what a glory still
Above thee rests, tho' desolate thy ways!
We look from far to each one sacred hill,
And faith & hope grow stronger as we gaze.

How doubly true seems truth when seen thro' you,
Sion, & Lebanon, & Olivet!
How dear the Amen, old yet ever new,
That echos to us from each ancient height!

Blessed the eyes that once upon you gazed;
Blessed the feet that once your highways trod;
Blessed the ears that heard the hymns once raised
In Salem's shrine, upon the Mount of God.

The gain of Loss.

Come, give me back my blossoms,
Sighed the palm-tree to the Nile!
But the river flowed unheeding,
With its soft & silver smile.

Nay, ask not back your blossoms,
To the palm-tree said the Nile;
Let me keep them, said the river,
With its sweet & sunny smile.

If your sweet flowers remain with you,
Fruitless your boughs must be,
'Tis their departure brings the ... fruit;
Give your bright flowers to me.

'Tis thus we gain by losing,
And win by failure here;
We doff the gleaming tinsel,
The golden crown to wear.

Then let the blossoms perish,
And let the fragrance go;
All the surer & the larger,
Is the harvest we shall know.

114

Almost Home.

From earth retiring,
Heavenward aspiring,
All my long day's work below now done,-
Calmly reclining,
All unrepining,
Jesus, let me lean on Thy love alone.

Thine arms embracing,
Each shadow chasing,
Chains of flesh now cease my soul to hold;
Pilgrim staff breaking,
Royal badge taking,
Earth's tow'rn vaiment all exchanged for gold.

Earth is retreating,
Heaven is me greeting,
Hope is lighting up new scenes above,
Tranquilly lying,
Peacefully dying,
Jesus beckons upward to His love.

286

115

All is God's.

Darkness with its unseen smile,
Light that cheers our daily toil,
Midnight with its silent love,
Brooding o'er us from above;
Rivers with their gentle song,
Sea-waves with their smiling throng,
Forests bending to the breeze,
Calm & tempests,—all are His.

Life with all its changes here,
Hopes that rise above this sphere,
Visions of the far & nigh,
Gleams of glad eternity,
Peace that soothes the aching soul,
Health that makes the wounded whole,
Love that fills the heart with bliss,
Song & silence,—all are His.

Let us then our honors bring
To this mighty Lord & King;
Let a new & ceaseless song
Break from every heart & tongue:
Praise Him as the God of might,
Praise Him as the Lord of light;
To His name our song we raise,
Father, Son, & Spirit praise.

Give Light.

The way is narrow, often dark,
With lights & shadows strown,—
I wander oft, & think it Thine,
When walking in my own.

Yet pleasant is the work for Thee,
And pleasant is the way;
But, Lord, the world is dark, & I
All prone to go astray.

O send me light to do Thy work!
More light, more wisdom give!
Then shall I work Thy work indeed,
While on Thine earth I live.

The work is Thine, not mine, O Lord;
It is Thy face we ren;
Give light! & then shall all I do
Be well & truly done.

Watch & pray.

O watch and pray,
Lest enemies assail;
And when the evil days draw on,
Your faith give way & fail.

Watch, then, & pray,
See the dark tempter's snare;
He lurks to smite, or to seduce,—
O watch, then, unto prayer.

He comes, he smiles,
An angel of the light:
Yet ruler of the darkness he,
And prince of this world's night.

Cheat not thyself;
Miss not the one true day:
The end of all things is at hand,—
O wake, & watch, & pray.

Glory to Father, Son, & Spirit.

To the name of God on high,
God of might & majesty,
God of heaven, & earth, & sea,
Blessing, praise, & glory be.

To the name of Christ, the Lord,
Son of God, Incarnate Word,—
Christ, by whom were all things made,
Be an endless honor paid.

To the Holy Spirit be,
Equal praise eternally,
With — the Father & the Son,
One in name, in glory one.

This, the song of ages past,
Song that shall forever last:
Let the ages yet to be
Join the joyful melody.

Glorious is our God the Lord;
Praises, then, with one accord,
To His holy name be given,
By the sons of earth & heaven.

Love not the World.

Love not the world,
However fair it seem;
Who loveth this fond world — the love of God
Abideth not in him.

Love not the world!
He in whose heart the love
Of vanity has found a place, shuts out
Th' enduring world above.

The wise & good —
They choose the better part;
To the true world that is to come, they give
The true & single heart.

Seek not the world!
'Tis a vain show at best;
Bow not before its idol-shrine; in God
Find thou thy joy & rest.

Celestial Water-brooks.

Celestial water-brooks!
  Bright with unearthly blue,
Fresh with the living flood of heaven,—
  Each day, in passing thro'
This parched wilderness of time,
  My Spirit thirsts for you;
Rivers of joy & life,
  My Spirit thirsts for you!

Across no desert waste
  Wanders your happy flood;
O'er no volcanic fire
  Ye take your trembling road;
But thro' the meadows of the blest,
  The home of love & God,
Where health, & peace & rest
  Have their secure abode.

Beneath no human fane
  Riseth your crystal stream;
Upon no earthly palaces
  Flasheth your golden gleam;
But from the heavenly throne
  Of God & of the Lamb,
The shrine & palace bright
  Of Him, the great I AM.

Intercession.

When the weary seeking rest,
To Thy goodness flee;
When the heavy-laden cast
All their load on Thee:
When the troubled seeking peace,
On Thy name shall call,
When the sinner, seeking life,
At Thy feet shall fall,—
Hear then, in love, O Lord, the cry,
In heaven Thy dwelling-place on high.

When creation, in her pangs,
Heaves her heavy groan;
When Thy Salem's exiled sons,
Breathe their bitter moan;
When Thy widowed, weeping Church,
Looking for a home,
Sendeth up her silent sigh,
Come, Lord Jesus, come!
Hear then, in love, O Lord, the cry,
In heaven Thy dwelling-place on high.

The true Bread.

True bread of life, in pitying mercy given,
Long-famished souls to strengthen & to feed;
Christ Jesus, Son of God, true bread of heaven,
Thy flesh is meat, Thy blood is drink indeed.

I cannot famish, tho' this earth should fail,
Tho' life, thro' all its fields, should pine & die;
Tho' the sweet verdure should forsake each vale,
And every stream of every land run dry.

Feeding on Thee, all weakness turns to power,
This sickly soul revives, like earth in spring;
Strength floweth on & in, each buoyant hour,
This being seems all energy, all wing.

True Tree of life! of Thee I eat & live,
Who eateth of Thy fruit shall never die;
'Tis Thine the everlasting health to give,
The youth & bloom of immortality.

123

Come, King of Glory.

Come, O come, Thou King of glory,
Take us from our prison-house;
Purge & heal the wounded conscience,
Perfect pardon seal to us.
Hallelujah,
King of glory, visit us.

King of glory, every shadow
Take from between us & Thee:
In Thy love, O King of glory,
Let us rest eternally.
Hallelujah,
Let these hearts repose in Thee.

King of glory, take the blindness
Of our sinful souls away,—
Error, ignorance, & folly,—
That no more our feet may stray.
Hallelujah,
Let Thy wisdom in us stay.

King of glory, let us love Thee,
Love Thee with a child-like heart;
Thine it is alone to give us
Love that never shall depart.
Hallelujah,
Thou our King & Saviour art.

Resurrection.

Soon this corruptible
  Shall, from the tomb,
Rise incorruptible,
  Leaving the gloom.
Soon shall this mortal frame
Spring from its bed of shame,
  When Christ hath come.

Bright morn of morns to me,
  When I arise,
Leaving the grave behind,—
  When these dull eyes
Shall my Redeemer see,
In immortality,
  In yonder skies:

Then shall the glorious hope
  Come from on high:
Death shall be swallowed up
  In victory.
Then shall we gladly sing,
Death, where is now thy sting,
  Thy victory?

185

Our Father's House.

Hail, dear home of rest!
Palace of the blest,
Hall of hymn & psalm,
Seat of deep true calm!

Home of holy light,
Starland ever bright,
Realm of joy & peace,
City of pure bliss!

Jesus is thy Sun,
Dimness thou hast none:
He the Lamb once slain,
Theme of each glad strain,
Blessing, honor, wisdom, power,
Be His forevermore!
This the song they sing,
Praising their high King.

84

The Cross.

Here is pardon's pledge & token,
Guilt's strong chain forever broken,
Righteous peace securely made;
Brightens now the brow once shaded,
Freshens now the face once faded,
Peace with God now makes us glad.

All the love of God is yonder,
Love above all thot & wonder,
Perfect love that casts out fear!
Strength, like dew, is here distilling,
Glorious life our souls is filling,—
Life eternal only here!

Here the living water welleth,
Here the rock, now smitten, telleth
Of salvation freely given.
This the fount of love & pity;
This the pathway to the city;
This the very gate of heaven!

The white Raiment.

Not the rich rainbow's varied bloom,
That diapason of the light;
Not the soft sunset's silken glow,
Or flush of gorgeous chrysolite:

Mine be the raiment given of God,
Wrought of fine linen clean & white,
Fit for the eye of God to see,—
Meet for His home of holy light.

128

Divine Peace.

Peace upon peace, like wave on wave,
This is the portion that I crave;
The peace of God which passeth thought,
The peace of Christ which changeth not.

Peace like the river's gentle flow,
Peace like the morning's gentle glow,
From day to day in love supplied,
An endless & unebbing tide.

Peace thro' the night & thro' the day,
Peace thro' all windings of our way;
In pain, & toil, & weariness,
A deep & everlasting peace.

Peace from the Father & the Son,
Peace from the Spirit, all His own,
Peace that shall never more be lost,
Of Father, Son, & Holy Ghost.

129

Who touched me?

"Who touched Me?" dost Thou ask?
"'Twas I, Lord, it was I.
"Some one hath touched me": — Yes, O Lord,
I am that "Somebody!"

I came, O Lord, & touched,
For sore I needed Thee;
Forth from Thee straight the virtue came;
Lord, Thou hast healed me.

And wouldst Thou frown on me?
Dost Thou the boon repent?
Why, then, Lord didst Thou pass so near,
As if to me just sent?

Thou, Lord, wert passing by;
I knew all heaven was there:
A heaven of healing & of love,
Thou didst within Thee bear.

A heaven of grace & peace,
Of pardon & of joy;
Lord, wouldst Thou have me let Thee pass,
And all that heaven go by?

What could I do but touch,
And Thou so nigh, so nigh?
What couldst Thou do but heal, O Lord,
Ere I had time to cry!

353

No. 9.

Prayer for Children.

Father, our children keep!
We know not what is coming on the earth;
Beneath the shadow of Thy heavenly wing,
O keep them, keep them, Thou who gav'st them birth.

Father, draw nearer us!
Draw firmer round us Thy protecting arm,
O clasp our children closer to Thy side,
Uninjured in the day of earth's alarm.

Them in Thy chambers hide!
O hide them, & preserve them calm & safe,
When sin abounds, & error flows abroad,
And Satan tempts, & human passions chafe.

O keep them undefiled,
Unspotted from a tempting world of sin,
That, clothed in white, thro' the bright city-gates,
They may with us in triumph enter in.

The Benediction. Heb. 13:20,21.

Now may the God of peace,
Who, thro' the blood once shed
Of the eternal covenant,
Did bring up from the dead
Our one Lord Jesus Christ,
Great Shepherd of the Sheep,—
In every good work perfect you,
And ever, ever keep:
Doing His heavenly will,
Working within you still,
The holy work & word,
Thro' Jesus Christ our Lord,
To whom the glory be,
Amen! Eternally!

132

Love our resting-place.

On the great love of God I lean,
Love of the Infinite, Unseen,
With nought of heaven or earth between.
"This God is mine, & I am His,
"His love is all I need of bliss.

One & forever reconciled,
The sinful with the Undefiled,
I walk with Him, "His trustful child;
"The blood of the great sacrifice
My troubled conscience pacifies.

In the calm light of God I move,
The light of holiness & love,
Like the pure light of heaven above;
"For God is love, & God is light,
A day without a cloud or night.

To the dear home of God I press,
The mansion of eternal bliss,
The seat of love & righteousness,
O home & seat of glorious life,
Beyond the turmoil & the strife.

245

Jesus Help.

O help me o'er this river,
Thou who hast crossed before;
O help, or I shall never
Reach the further shore.

Its waters swell & eddy;
I fall, I sink, I'm lost!
O keep my footsteps steady,
Till I have safely crossed.

If Thou, dear Lord, will help me,
If Thou will help my need;
Ah, this will save, will save me,
And I am saved indeed.

A word from Thee will do it,
One word, one word, no more;
I shall be carried thro' it,
And landed on the shore.

O help me thro' this trial,
Thou tried & tempted One;
I cannot take denial,—
Thou must, or I am gone.

Give glory to God.

To Him in whom we live & move,
In whom we have our being;
To Him whose glory passeth far
All hearing & all seeing,
Who speaketh, & lo, it is done,—
Commands, & all stand fast;
Who is the everlasting God!
Who is the first & last:
To Him who hath prepared for us
A home & mansion bright,
The kingdom never to be moved,
The heritage of light,—
To Him be glory given,
By all in earth & heaven.

Christ's Love.

Clear written on the cross I read Thy love;
Thy love is there, & then Thy power I see,
The power that comes with healing from above,
That brings to us a heavenly liberty.

What is the love to me without the cross?
And what the cross without the love, O Lord?
All sin & weakness I,—it is the cross
That to my broken soul doth health afford.

O love that passeth knowledge, thee I need,
Pour in the heavenly sunshine; fill my heart,
Scatter the cloud, the doubting & the dread,
The joy unspeakable to me impart.

O love that passeth knowledge, shine on me,
As thro' these sunless solitudes I wind;
Bright on my path, give buoyant liberty,
Nerve for the fight, unburden & unbind.

Fill Thou my Life with Praise.

Fill Thou my life, O Lord my God,
In every part with praise;
That my whole being may proclaim
Thy being, & Thy ways.

Not for the lip of praise alone,
Nor e'en the praising heart
I ask, – but for a <u>life</u> made up
Of praise, in every part.

Fill every part of me with praise;
Let all my being speak
Of Thee, & of Thy love, O Lord,
Poor tho' I be & weak.

So shall each fear, each fret, each care,
Be turned into song;
And every winding of the way,
The echo shall prolong.

So shall no part of day or night
From sadness be free,
But all my life, in every step,
Be fellowship with Thee.

'Tis God that justifies.

'Tis God that justifies! Amen.
Who shall condemn his justified?
If God be on our side, who then
Can harm those for whom Jesus died?

He died, but rose, for life was His;
His resurrection-joy was ours;
Ours his eternal victories
O'er principalities & powers.

In place of honor & of rest
He sits, our mighty Advocate,
Our names engraven on His breast;—
Who from His love can separate?

Yes; He hath entered into rest,
And we with Him shall enter there;
Our place, our home among the blest
He hath ascended to prepare.

Near hope & dear! it says,—be still:
Care, trouble, weariness, depart!
With thoughts of coming rest, O fill
Each region of this restless heart.

Life in Christ.

Thy flesh is meat indeed, my God & Lord,
Thy blood is drink indeed, for evermore;
On Thee alone I feed, of Thee I drink,
That into this sick soul the heavenly health may pour.

My life, my everlasting life, art Thou,
My health, my joy, my strength I owe to Thee;
Because Thou livest, I shall also live,
And where Thou art in glory, there I too shall be.

Chief of ten thousand, lovely & beloved,
The Rose of Sharon, ever fresh & fair,
In Thee is all created beauty found,
All uncreated excellence is truly there.

O Christ, we praise Thee for Thy glory great,
But for Thy death of love we praise Thee most;
We praise Thee, Son of the eternal God,
We praise the Father too, we praise the Holy Ghost.

The Bible.

Thy thoughts are here, my God,
Expressed in words divine,
The utterance of heavenly lips,
In every sacred line.

Across the ages they
Have reached us from afar,
Than the bright gold more golden they,
Purer than purest star.

Each word of Thine a gem
From the celestial mines,
A sunbeam from that holy heaven,
Where holy sunlight shines.

No light from sons of time,
Nor brilliance from its gold,
It sparkles from its own glad light,
As in the ages old.

It standeth & will stand,
Without or change or age,
The word of majesty & light,
The Church's heritage.

The Love I need.

The love that blotteth out each stain,
That plucketh hence each deadly sting;
That fills me with the peace of God,
Unseals my lips & bids me sing.

The love that liberates & saves,
That this poor straitened soul expands;
That lifts me to the heaven of heavens,
The Shrine above not made with hands.

The love that quickens into zeal,
That makes me self-denied & true;
That leads me out of what is old,
And brings me into what is new.

That pacifies, & cheers, & calms,
That knows no change & no decay;
The love that loves forevermore,
Celestial sunshine, endless day.

This is the love that calms my heart,
That soothes each conscience-pang within;
That pacifies my guilty dread,
And frees me from the power of sin.

Life hid in Christ.

Our life is hid with Christ in God;
When He who is our life descends,
That hidden life shall be unveiled
In beauty, that all thót transcends.

And we shall see Him as He is,
And we shall know as we are known;
His bride, His love, His undefiled,
The sharers of His endless throne.

The day when He, the living one,
In glory & in light shall come,
From every grave shall burst a song,
And death-sealed lips no more be dumb.

Where, where, O death, is now thy sting?
And where, O grave, thy victory?
Death has been swallowed up in life,
The grave in immortality.

Love the Truth.

Love thou the truth,
And speak the truth in love;
The wisdom pure & peaceable
Descendeth from above.

Buy thou the truth,
And sell it not again;
Count thou no price too great for it;
Part with it for no gain.

All truth is calm,
Refuge & rock & tower;
The move of truth, the move of calm,
Its calmness is its power.

Truth is not strife,
Nor is to strife allied;
It is the error that is hurled
Of storm, by rage & pride.

Calmness is truth,
And truth is calmness still;
Truth lifts its forehead to the storm,
Like some eternal hill.

Wonders of the Cross.

Love its fullness there unfolding,
Stand we here in joy beholding,
To the exiled sons of men;
Love the gladness past all naming,
Of an open heaven proclaiming,
Love that bids us enter in.

God is love;—we read the writing,
Traced so deeply in the smiting
Of the glorious Surety there.
God is light; we see it beaming,
Like a heavenly day-spring gleaming
So divinely sweet & fair.

Cross of shame, yet tree of glory!
Round thee winds the one great story
Of this ever-changing earth.
Centre of the true & holy,
Grave of human sin & folly,
Womb of Nature's second birth.

Ever with Christ.

Not in the morning only,
Or midnight calm & still,
When the tired day-breeze lies at rest,
On the fir-shaded hill:

But all the bustling day,
Mid toil & weariness,
Hour crowding upon troubled hour,
Like waves that never cease.

Not on the Sabbath only,
In the dear house of prayer,
Where earthly din cannot intrude,
And only God is there:

But all week long, in spite
Of care & vanity,
That thus, even in the crowd, I may
Be still alone with Thee.

The Morning Star.

There is a star in yonder sky,
Above all stars it seems to shine;
'Tis long since first it fixed my eye.
And I have learned to call it mine.

It seemed to take its place each night,
A sentinel to guard my rest;
An eye of love & gentle light,
Pouring sweet thots into my breast.

In thro' my lattice as I lay,
Half soothed to sleep, it nightly shone,
And as I gazed upon its ray,
I felt that I was not alone.

It spoke of day beyond this night,
In the glad land where all is fair;
It pointed to the . . home of light,
And bid me rest my spirit there.

May I not love that star on high?
May not its light the fairest seem?
May I not trace a loving eye,
A kindly smile in every beam?

No. 10.

To a Little Child.

No night descend on thee;
O'er thee no shadows come!
Safe be thy journey through
This vale of cloud & gloom.

Day-break be ever thine;
With fresh & rosy hours,
Calm sunshine of the morn,
Odors, & dews, & flowers.

One long sweet Spring be thine,
With buds still bursting thro';
Fresh blossoms every hour,
And verdure fair & new.

Peace be thy gentle guest,
Peace holy & divine;
God's blessed sunlight still,
Upon thy pathway shine.

His Spirit fill thy soul,
And cast out every sin,
His own deep joy impart,
And make a heaven within.

This is not our Home.

Let us go hence!
Defiled, polluted thus,
This is no home for us;
Till earth is purified,
We may not here abide.
We were not born for earth;
The city of our birth,
The better paradise,
Is far above these skies:
Upward then let us soar,
Cleaving to dust no more!

Let us go hence!
Death & the grave are here,
The sick-bed & the bier.
The children of the tomb
May love this kindred gloom;
But we, the deathless band,
Must seek the deathless land.
The mortal here may rove,
The immortal dwell above.
Here, we can only die,
Let us ascend on high!

148

Brother, where shall we meet?

Where no shadow shall be cast,
Where life's vain parade is o'er,
Where the sleep of sin is broken,
And the dreamer dreams no more:
Where no bond is ever sundered;
Partings, farewells, sob & moan,
Midnight waking, twilight weeping,
Heavy noontide,—all are done:
Where the child has found its mother,
Where the mother finds the child,
Where dear families are gathered,
That were scattered on the wild:

Where the hidden wound is healed,
Where the blighted life re-blooms,
Where the smitten heart, the freshness
Of its buoyant youth resumes:
Where the love that here we lavish
On the withering leaves of time,
Shall have fadeless flowers to fix on,
In an ever Spring-bright clime:
Where we find the joy of loving,
As we never loved before,—
Loving on, unchilled, unhindered,
Loving once & evermore.

4

169

Beckon us upward.

Beckon us upward, ever-soaring clouds,
That gleam like fringes of these curtaining skies,
Beckon us up, and, as ye beckon, draw,
O draw us, draw us, & we shall arise.

Beckon us upward, each sky-loving peak,
Whose home is far above these vales of sin;
'Tis earth around us, but from you there breaks
A light which bids us rise & enter in.

The sun is on your heights! and, from these cliffs,
It speaks to us of love & glory there;
Like some fresh, joyous angel that alights
To call us upward to the good & fair.

It says, the better Sun is just at hand,
And, with Him all true day-spring:—O great Sun,
Sun of all earth & heaven, ascend & shine,
And let this darkness fade, this night be done.

O happy soul, when this fair Sun shall rise,
And chase thy darkness with his light divine!
O happy earth, when this long day shall break,
And flood with glory these low vales of thine!

197

How long?

These years, what ages they have been!
This life, how long it seems!
And how can I, in evil days,
'Mid unknown hills & streams,
But sigh for those of home & heart,
And visit them in dreams?

Yet peace, my heart; & hush, my tongue;
Be calm, my troubled breast;
Each restless hour is hastening on
The everlasting rest:
Thou knowest that the time thy God
Appoints for thee, is best.

Let faith, not fear, now fretfulness,
Awake the cry, "How long?"
Let no faint-heartedness of soul
Damp thy aspiring song:
Right comes, truth dawns, the night departs
Of error & of wrong.

151

The Church glorified.

The night is at an end,
The dawn comes softly up,
Clear as its own clear dew;
And weeping has gone out,
To let in only songs
And everlasting joy!

The Prince of Life has come,
The Church is glorified;
The sleepers have awoke,
The living have been changed;
Death has at last been slain,
The grave forever spoiled.

The curse is swept away,
The serpent-trail effaced;
The desert smiles with green,
And blossoms like the rose!
'Tis more than Eden now,
Earth has become as heaven.

Satan is bound in chains;
The Church's ancient foe,
Old enemy of Christ,
Has fallen, with all his hosts;
And Babylon the great,
Has sunk to rise no more!

152

The Mystery.

Christ, the Father's Son eternal,
Once was born a Son of man;
He who never knew beginning,
There on earth a life began.

There in Galilee He wanders,
Thro' its teeming cities moves,
Climbs its mountains, walks its waters,
Blesses, comforts, saves, & loves.

Words of truth & deeds of kindness,
Miracles of grace & might,
Scatter fragrance all around Him,
Shine with heaven's most glorious light.

In Gethsemane behold Him,
In the agony of prayer;
Kneeling, pleading, groaning, bleeding,
Soul & body prostrate there.

Sinless, He our sin is bearing,
All our sorrows on Him lie,
And His stripes our wounds are healing,
God, for man, consents to die!

02

153

Let all be one.

Let all be one!
One church, one faith, one love, one hope, one joy;
One Bridegroom, & one holy bride, –
This unity divine let none destroy.

One temple vast!
Builded of living stones by God's own hand;
One household & one brotherhood,
Knit all together by love's perfect band.

Let truth prevail!
Truth ever true, not shifting with the wind.
Walk we in light, as sons of noon,
The shadows that divide us left behind.

Let love prevail!
Love the most excellent of gifts divine;
The love that seeketh not her own, –
Long-suffering love, all patient, Lord, like thine!

Let love prevail!
The love that envies not, that thinks no ill;
That faileth not, but ever lives, –
All things believing, hoping, bearing still.

So be it, Lord!
Even here on earth, where all things broken lie,
So shall it be in love's own day,
In love's own kingdom everlastingly.

382

154

Praise God.

Jehovah praise! Praise God
Within His sanctuary!
O praise Him in His place of power,
His firmament on High.

With the clear trumpet's sound,
Lift ye His glory high;
Upon the harp His praises speak,
And on the psaltery.

Praise Him for all His deeds
Of majesty & power;
For greatness & for excellence,
O praise Him every hour!

155

The King of Glory.

Lift up, O gates,
  Lift up your heads on high!
Be lifted up,
  Doors of eternity!
Then He, the king
  Of glory, shall come in!
Who can this king,
  This king of glory be?
Jehovah strong,
  In battle mighty He!
Lift up, O gates,
  Lift up your heads on high;
Yea, lift them up,
  Doors of eternity!
Then He, the king
  Of glory shall come in.
Who can this king,
  This king of glory, be?
The Lord of hosts,
  The king of glory He!

365

Heavenly City.

Heavenly city, city bright,
On the rock securely placed,
In thy haven calmly set,
From afar thy walls I greet;
Thee I hail, for thee I sigh;
Thee I love, for thee I cry.
How thy sons rejoice in love,
How they keep the feast above,
What they feel mid yonder light,
Or what gems their walls make bright,
Jasper's or chalcedon's glow,—
They who are within thee know!
In the streets of yonder city,
May I, with the holy throng,
Joined with Moses and Elias,
Sing the hallelujah song.

Alleluia.

Alleluia, song of sweetness,
Voice of endless joy & love!
Alleluia, voice of gladness
To the happy choirs above!

Alleluia! we deserve not
Such a note of heavenly song;
Oft the conscious guilt within us
Checks & silences our tongue.

Yet the time, the time is coming,
When in brighter, calmer clime,
We shall turn, with wistful longing,
To the ended songs of time.

Then to Father, Son, & Spirit,
Mingle we the prayer & praise,
The great feast above beholding,
Thro' the everlasting days.

Holy Sleep.

Lord, if he sleep he shall do well!
How sweet, in such a world as this,
To lie unconscious of each spell
That works our daily weariness!

These eyes & ears we cannot trust,
They work us hourly woe within;
How sweet to close them in the dust,
And be with God alone shut in!

How sweet to shut out time & sense,
Visions, & vanities, & dreams,
Earth's glare, so withering & intense,
Toil's hourly burdens, pleasure's gleams!

In death to leave all death behind,
From sickness & from pain to fly;
And, in the dreaded grave, to find
The gate of immortality!

Death at Sea.

'Tho dies in Christ the Lord, dies well,
Tho' on the lonely main:
As soft the pillow of the deep,
As tranquil the uncurtained sleep,
As on the couch where fond ones weep;—
And they shall rise again.

O'er the loved clay God sets his watch,
The angels guard it well,
Till summoned by the trumpet loud,
Like star emerging from the cloud,
Or blossom from its sheltering shroud,
It leaves its ocean-cell.

The sea shall give it back, tho' death
The well-known form destroy;
Nor rock, nor sand, nor foam can chain,
Nor mortal prison-house retain,
Each atom shall awake again,
And rise with song & joy.

O morning Star! O risen Lord!
Destroyer of the tomb!
Star of the living & the dead,
Lift up at length Thy long-veiled head,
O'er land & sea Thy glories shed;—
Light of the morning, come!

Heaven at Last.

Angel-voices sweetly singing;
Echoes thro' the blue dome ringing;
News of wondrous gladness bringing:
Ah, 'tis heaven at last!

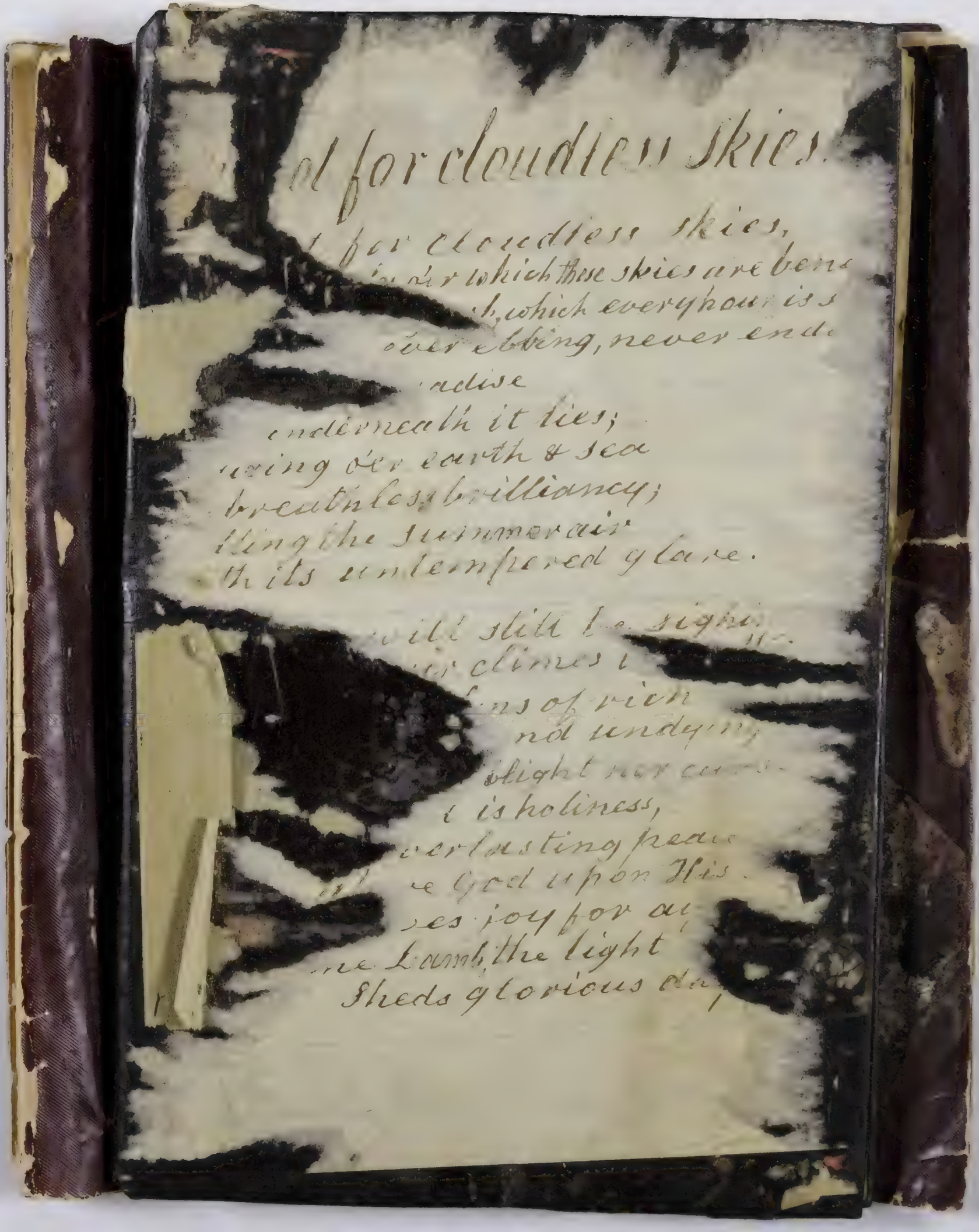
Sin forever left behind us,
Earthly visions cease to blind us,
Fleshly fetters cease to bind us;
Ah, 'tis heaven at last!

On the jasper threshold standing,
Like a pilgrim safely landing,
See the strange bright scene expanding!
Ah, 'tis heaven at last!

Softest voices, silver pealing,
Freshest fragrance, Spirit-healing,
Happy hymns around us stealing;
Ah, 'tis heaven at last!

Gone the vanity & folly,
Gone, the dark & melancholy,
Come the joyous & the holy;
Ah, 'tis heaven at last!

Christ Himself the living splendor,
Christ the sunlight mild & tender,
Kraises to the Lamb we render;
Ah, 'tis heaven at last!



...l for cloudless skies.

...l for cloudless skies,
...r which these skies are bene...
...h, which everyhour is s...
...ever ebbing, never end...
...adise
...ndeath it lies;
...ing o'er earth & sea
...breathless brilliancy;
...ling the summer air
...th its unlestered glare.

...ill still be sighs...
...climes ...
...ns of vice
...not tender...
...slight nor cur...
... is holiness,
...erlasting peace
...e God upon His...
...es joy for a...
...me Lamb, the light
Sheds glorious day

Table
of the First Lines of the Hymns.

	Page.
Lord, on me Thy grace bestow	4
Can such a sinful child as I	5
Blest Comforter — Spirit divine	6
Father of mercies, God of grace	7
O glorious Savior, Lamb of God	8
Jesus, listen when I pray	10
My spirit longs for Thee, my God	11
In all life's changing scenes	12
The morning breaks	13
When night o'er earth (see p. 34)	15
Father in heaven, all honor to Thy name	16
Now heavenly Father, give repose	17

First Lines of Select Hymns.

Come thou Fount of every blessing	18
O for a closer walk with God	19

	Page
While Thee I seek, protecting power	21
From the recesses of a lowly spirit	22
Thy will be done	24
Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah	25
Jesus, lover of my soul	26
Rock of Ages, cleft for me	27
Just as I am, without one plea	28
My faith looks up to Thee	29
Nearer, my God, to Thee	31
Here in thy holy presence	33

Contrition.

Unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.
Show me thy ways, O Lord, teach me thy paths.
Lead me in thy truth & teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation. Ps. 25: 1, 4, 5.

1. O Lord, on me thy grace bestow;
Help me each devious way to shun,
And over all my sins of heart,
Let a full victory be won.

2. Let passion, selfishness and pride,
And every foe to grace be slain,
Stamp thine own image on my soul,
And let thy love within me reign.

3. Cleansed by the Savior's precious blood,
May I in grace and knowledge grow,
And have that peace and joy in God,
Which none but heaven-born spirits know.

4. O fit me for that blest abode,
The bright inheritance above,
Where ransomed souls forever sing
Redeeming grace and dying love.

J. M. Putnam.

Contrition.

Hear, O Lord, ×× have mercy upon me & answer me.
Ps. 27: 7.

1 Can such a sinful child as I,
Be by a holy God forgiven?
Can one so vile be raised on high,
And made to taste the bliss of heaven?

2 O yes, there is an open Fount,
Filled with the Savior's precious blood,
And tho' to heaven my sins may mount,
There's strength to bear in that pure flood.

3 To this pure Fountain I would fly,
In Jesus' arms 'tis sweet to rest;
Tho' clouds o'ercast my wintry sky,
His smiles can cheer a soul distressed.

4 O God of mercy, hear my prayer,
And grant me Thy forgiving love;
Let me Thy loving kindness share,
And all my deep-stained guilt remove.

5 Look down & mind Thy gracious eye,
As prostrate at Thy feet I lie;
Behold the penitential tear,
The hardened heart, the contrite sigh.

6 O wash & make me clean within,
And let Thy precepts be my guide;
Preserve me from the snares of sin,
O'er every thought & step preside.

E. H. Sullivan

Holy Spirit.

When he, the Spirit of truth is come, he will guide you into all truth. John 16:13.

1. Blest Comforter - Spirit divine,
Do thou - thy gracious influence lend;
Visit this anxious breast of mine;
With thy reviving power descend.

7

2. 'Tis thine to sanctify the heart,
And make the guilty conscience pure,
To bid all sinful thoughts depart,
And perfect holiness secure.

3. He came & died, that I might live,
And rise above the power of sin;
O let me his pure spirit have,
And here on earth a heaven begin.

4. O make me holy—more and more
Like happy souls that dwell on high,
Where with glad voices, they adore,
In heaven—Joyful strains that never die.

T. M. Putnam.

Contrition.

Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation, & uphold me with thy free Spirit. Ps. 51:12.

1. Father of mercies, God of grace,
O grant thou me true peace within;
Let me behold Thy smiling face,
And feel the joys of pardoned sin.

2. I hate vain thots; I love Thy law;
And yet how oft my footsteps slide!
How oft do strong temptations draw
My wayward feet from Thee aside!

3. I would do good; but foes are nigh,
To leave me fram the heavenly way:
O let me on Thy grace rely,
And from Thy precepts no more stray.

4. To Thy kind arms, my God, I fly;
In Thee alone I'm truly blest;
O let me dwell with Thee on high,
And in Thy bosom ever rest.

5. This is the glorious heaven I seek,—
To dwell forever with the Lord,
And, freed from sin, His praises speak,
In strains divine of sweet accord.

J. H. [illegible]

The cross.

Thou hast redeemed us to God by thy blood. Rev. 5: 9.

1. O glorious Savior, Lamb of God,
My soul on Thee I stay:

'Tis only Thine own precious blood
Can take my guilt away.

2. My faith looks up to Calvary!
To here thou hast groaned, -- & bled!
To purchase endless life for me,
And be my living Head.

3. O what divine, what matchless love,
Inspired the Savior's breast;
To leave his blissful courts above,
To make the sinner blest!

4. What shall I render to my Lord,
For such amazing grace?
Let all my powers, with one accord,
Breathe forth their purest praise.

5. Savior, my trust is all in Thee;
Grant me Thy love and care:
May my whole soul, from sin made free,
Thine own sweet image bear.

E. H. Stevens.

Prayer to Jesus.

I am the good Shepherd & know my sheep, & am known of mine. John 10:14.

1. Jesus, listen when I pray;
Turn not thine ear away;
Nearer I would live to Thee,
And from every sin be free.

2. Lift on me thy smiling face;
In me thy pure image place;
Let each Christian grace be mine,
Every virtue in me shine.

3. Thou whose glory fills the sky,
Teach and guide me with thine eye;
Teach me thine own holy will,
Guide me in thy footsteps still.

4. O do thou my heart inspire
With a pure and holy fire,
Such as seraph-angels feel,
As around thy throne they kneel.

F. L. H.

Longings after God.

My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God. Ps. 42:2.

1. My spirit longs for Thee, my God;
O when shall I from sin be free?
O when enjoy a heaven on earth,
By being made conformed to Thee?

2. As pants the hart for water-brooks,
Eager to quaff the cooling flood,—
So do I long for living streams;
So pants my soul for Thee, my God.

3. I thirst for God—the living God!
When shall I come before his face?
O when his power and glory see,
And feel the quickenings of his grace?

4. Why, O my soul, art thou cast down?
Why tune thy harp to mournful lays?
Hope thou in God — make Him thy trust,
And lift to heaven the voice of praise.

5. O let me never doubt God's grace,
But all my powers for Him employ;
He loves his saints, and will transform
Their deepest woes to purest joy.

Safety in God.

He shall cover thee with his feathers, & under his wings shalt thou trust. Ps. 91:4

1. In all life's changing scenes, and cares,
Its toils, its conflicts, and its woes,
Under thy guardian wing, my God,
I rest secure from all my foes.

2. Tho' waves of trouble o'er me roll,
I see in all thy hand of love;
The storm may rage, the tempest howl,
My steadfast faith still looks above.

3. When nature's final struggle's past —
The battle fought, the contest o'er, —
And my freed spirit takes its flight,
To dwell midst earthly scenes no more:

4. Then, Savior, be thy chariot near,
To bear me to the upper skies,
Where songs of joy and victory,
In strains of holy rapture rise.

5. There, midst the glories of the Lamb,
And wonders of thy courts above,
May I enjoy an endless day,
Safe in the bosom of thy love.

T. M. Putnam.

Morning Section.

My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up. Ps. 5:3.

1. The morning breaks! glory to God
Most High! the God of boundless might;
Being from whom all goodness flows, —
Great Giver of all life and light.

2. To Thee I raise my waking eyes;
To Thee lift up my soul to pray:
My God, I bless Thee for the light,
The glories of the opening day.

3. And as the sun, athwart the heavens,
And o'er the earth, shall shed his rays,
Do Thou, with brighter beams, illume
My soul, and fill me with Thy praise.

4. Help me, this day, to do thy will;
My pathway gild with light divine;
Inspire my soul with peace and love,
And henceforth make me wholly Thine.

5. Let me not heed the Tempter's wiles,
Nor from thy counsels turn aside,
In all my thoughts, and words, and deeds,
May thy good Spirit be my guide.

13

(Substitute for this ~~xxxx~~ the sermon on p. 34)

Evening Devotion.

I will both lay me down in peace & sleep, for thou, Lord, only makest me dwell in safety. Ps. 4:8.

1. When night o'er earth her mantle spreads
And darkening shades the skies invest,
'Tis sweet to put aside all care,
And lay the body down to rest.

2. O Thou who hast an ear to hear,
When contrite souls before Thee kneel,
Do Thou now listen to my prayer,
Thy Spirit's gracious influence send.

3. Apply the Savior's precious blood;
Wash all my stains of guilt away;
Hold me in thy paternal arms,
Nor let me ever from Thee stray.

4. With loving kindness compass Thou
My bed; my every thought control,
And let the bosom of Thy love
Be the sweet pillow of my soul.

5. So shall I rest in perfect peace,
From every anxious care made free;
No evil has the soul to fear,
Whose hope is in Thee, O God, in Thee.
E. H. Vinson.

The Lord's Prayer.

"I will that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath & doubting." 1 Tim. 2: 8.

Our Father in heaven, all honor to Thy name!
Let nations bow, & celebrate Thy fame:
Thy kingdom come; Thy will on earth be done,
As done by angels round Thy heavenly throne.

From Thy rich, boundless stores, do Thou supply
Our daily wants: we on Thy grace rely.
In peace with all men we would ever live,
And pray to be forgiven, as we forgive.

Let not temptations have our feet astray,
But keep us in the straight & narrow way;
Be Thou our Helper in the trying hour,
And let us rise above the tempter's power.

And now to Thee, Thou God of boundless might,
Whose presence fills the radiant worlds of light,
Be honor, praise, & endless glory given,
By all on earth, & all the hosts of heaven.

Evening Devotions.

When thou liest down thou shalt not be afraid; yea, thou shalt lie down, and thy sleep shall be sweet. Pr. 3:24.

Now, heavenly Father, give repose;
With love's soft hand my eyelids close.
My mind from every care release;
Nor let my spirit be oppressed,
With fitful dreams that break my rest,
And thus deprive my soul of peace.

Safely & sweetly may I sleep,
While angel-bands their vigils keep,
Encamped as guards around my bed;
And when I wake, O holy Dove,
Light up anew the flame of love,
Thine influence on my spirit shed.

Peaceful as down to rest I lie,
So may I learn in peace to die,
Reposing on my Savior's breast:
Encircled in His arms of love,
All threatening ills I'll rise above,
Joyful in hope, divinely blest.

When Jordan's dark & cheerless flood
Shall chill the current of life's blood,
And end fond nature's dying strife,-
Blest Savior, then Thy love display,
And bid my spirit soar away
To realms of bliss, & endless life.

E. H. Putnam

Hymns of Prayer.
Selected.

Grateful Recollection.

The goodness of God endureth continually. Ps. 52: 1.

1. Come Thou Fount of every blessing.
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.

2. Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above;
Raise the mount - I'm fixed upon it -
Mount of God's unchanging love.

3. Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.

4. O to grace how great a debtor,
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to thee.

5. Prone to wander, Lord I feel it;
Prone to leave the God I love!
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,—
Seal it for thy courts above.

Robinson.

Walking with God.

"Draw nigh to God, & he will draw nigh to you." James 4:8.

1. O for a closer walk with God,—
A calm and heavenly frame;
And light to shine upon the road,
That leads me to the Lamb.

2. Where is the blessedness I knew,
When first I saw the Lord?
Where is the soul-refreshing view
Of Jesus, and his Word?

20

2. What peaceful hours I once enjoyed!
How sweet their memory still!
But they have left an aching void,
The world can never fill.

3. Return, O holy Dove, return,
Sweet messenger of rest;
I hate the sins that made thee mourn,
And drove thee from my breast.

4. The dearest idol I have known,
Whatever that idol be –
Help me to tear it from thy throne,
And worship only Thee.

5. So shall my walk be close with God,
Calm and serene my frame;
And purer light shall mark the road,
That leads me to the Lamb.

Cowper.

21

Adoration.

Great is the Lord & greatly to be praised. 1. Chron. 16:25.

1. While Thee I seek, protecting power,
Be my vain wishes stilled;
And let this consecrated hour,
With better hopes be filled.

2. Thy love the power of thought bestowed,
To thee my thoughts would soar:
Thy mercy o'er my life has flowed;
That mercy I adore.

3. In each event of life, how clear
Thy ruling hand I see!
Each blessing to my sense more dear
Because conferred by thee.

4. In every joy that crowns my days,
In every pain I bear,
My heart shall find delight in praise
Or seek relief in prayer.

5. When gladness wings my favored hour,
Thy love my thoughts shall fill;
Resigned, when storms of sorrow lower,
My soul shall meet thy will.

6. My lifted eye without a tear,
The gathering storm shall see,
My steadfast heart shall know no fear;
That heart shall rest on thee.

Humble Devotion.

Our iniquities are increased over our head, & our trespass is grown up into the heavens. Ezra 9:6

1. From the recesses of a lowly spirit,
My humble prayer ascends, O Father, hear it!
Borne on the trembling wings of fear and meekness,
Forgive its weakness.

2. I know, I feel, how mean and how unworthy
The lowly sacrifice I pour before thee;
What can I offer thee, O thou most Holy,
But sin and folly?

2.

3. Lord, in thy sight who every bosom
Cold are our warmest vows, and vain our
Thots of a hurrying hour — our lips re-
Our hearts forget them.

4.
We see thine hand — it feeds us, it supports us:
We hear thy voice — it counsels, and it
And then we turn away! and still thy kindness
Forgives our blindness.

5. Who can resist thy gentle calls — appealing
To every generous thot, and grateful feeling?
O who can hear the accents of thy mercy,
And never love thee?

6. Kind Benefactor, plant within this bosom
The seeds of holiness — and let them blossom,
In fragrance and in beauty, bright and vernal,
And spring eternal.

4. Then place them in those everlasting gardens.
Where angels walk, and seraphs are the wardens:
Where every flower, but safe thro' death's dark portal,
Becomes immortal. Bowring.

Submission.

Not what I will, but what thou wilt. Mark 14: 36.

1. Thy will be done! In devious way
The hurrying stream of life may run,
Yet still my grateful heart shall say,
Thy will be done!

2. Thy will be done! If o'er me shine
A glad'ning and a prosperous sun,
This prayer shall make it more divine.
Thy will be done!

3. Thy will be done! Tho' shrouded o'er
My path with gloom, one comfort, one
Is mine — to breathe while I adore.
Thy will be done!

Bowring.

God the Pilgrim's Guide.

In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust. For thy name's sake lead me and guide me. Ps. 31:1, 3

1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
Pilgrim thro' this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
Hold me in thy powerful hand.
Bread of Heaven,
Feed me till I want no more.

2. Open, Lord, the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing streams do flow;
Let the fiery cloudy pillar,
Lead me all my journey through:
Strong Deliverer!
Be thou still my strength and shield.

3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Thou of death and hell the Conqueror,
Land me safe on Canaan's side;
Songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee.

Oliver.

Christ our Refuge

The eternal God is thy refuge, & underneath are the everlasting arms. Deut. 33:27.

1. Jesus, Lover of my soul,
Let me to thy bosom fly,
While the billows near me roll,
While the tempest still is nigh!
Hide me, O my Savior, hide,
Till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide,—
O receive my soul at last.

2. Other refuge have I none;
Hangs my helpless soul on thee;
Leave, ah! leave me not alone—
Still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed;
All my help from thee I bring;
Cover my defenceless head,
With the shadow of thy wing.

3. Thou, O Christ, art all I want;
More than all in Thee I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint;
Heal the sick, & lead the blind.
Just & holy is Thy name;
I am all unrighteousness.
Vile & full of sin I am;
Thou art full of truth & grace. C. Wesley.

Rock of Ages.

And that Rock was Christ - 1 Cor. 10: 4.

1. Rock of Ages! cleft for me;
Let me hide myself in Thee!
Let the water and the blood,
From thy riven side that flowed,
Be of sin the double cure, –
Cleanse me from its guilt and power.

2.
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears forever flow –
All for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and Thou alone!
In my hand no price I bring;
Simply to thy cross I cling.

3. While I draw this fleeting breath;
When my eyelids close in death;
When I soar to worlds unknown;
See Thee on thy judgment throne, –
Rock of Ages! cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee!

Toplady

22

Coming to Christ.

If any man thirst, let him come unto me & drink. John 7:37

1. Just as I am, without one plea
But that thy blood was shed for me,
And that thou bidst me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come!

2. Just as I am, and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To thee whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come!

3. Just as I am tho' tossed about,
With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings within and fears without,
O Lamb of God, I come!

4. Just as I am — thy love unknown
Hath broken every barrier down;
Now to be thine, and thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come!

Charlotte Elliott.

2 9

Savior Divine.

"In my Father's house are many mansions. I go to prepare a place for you. John 14:2.

1. My faith looks up to Thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior Divine!
Now hear me while I pray;
Take all my guilt away;
O let me from this day,
Be wholly Thine!

2. May Thy rich grace impart
Strength to my fainting heart,
My zeal inspire!
As Thou hast died for me,
O may my love to Thee,
Pure, warm, and changeless be,
A living fire!

3. While life's dark maze I tread,
And griefs around me spread,
Be Thou my Guide;

Bid darkness turn to day,
Wipe sorrow's tears away,
Nor let me ever stray
From thee aside.

4. When ends life's transient dream,
When death's cold, sullen stream
Shall o'er me roll,—
Blest Savior, then, in love,
Fear and distrust remove;
O bear me safe above,—
A ransomed soul!

Ray Palmer.

Nearer to God.

It is good for me to draw near to God. Ps 73:28.

Nearer, my God, to Thee,
Nearer to Thee
E'en though it be a cross
That raiseth me,
Still all my song shall be,
Nearer, my God, to Thee
Nearer to Thee.

Tho' like a wanderer,
Daylight all gone,
Darkness be over me,
My rest a stone,
Yet in my dreams I'd be
Nearer, my God, to Thee.
Nearer to Thee.

There let the way appear
Steps up to heaven;
All that Thou sendest me
In mercy given,
Angels, to beckon me
Nearer, my God, to Thee.
Nearer to Thee.

Then with my waking thoughts.
Bright with Thy praise,
Out of my stony griefs
Bethel I'll raise;
So by my woes to be
Nearer, my God, to Thee,
Nearer to Thee.

Or if, on joyful wing,
Cleaving the sky,
Sun, moon, & stars forgot,
Upward I fly,—
Still all my song shall be,
Nearer, my God, to Thee,
Nearer to Thee.

53

Consecration.

"Whom have I in heaven but Thee, & there is none upon earth that I desire besides Thee. Ps. 73:25.

I am Thine to be forever, Lord, I stand;
I give myself, my all, to Thee.
I am cost redeemed me by Thy precious blood;
Thine only will I be.
No love but Thine, but Thine can me relieve;
No light but Thine, but Thine will I receive;
No light, no love, but Thine.

Here, just as I am! Thou needst me not,
I know Thou needst me not at all.
All heaven is Thine, and earth, each morning star;
Thine angels wait Thy call.
I am the poorest of Thy creatures, yet,
In midst of evil & dark misery.
Yet take me as I am.

I cannot rest till Thou dost bless me now,
I want Thee down to do it, or a sign:
I want to hear from Thee, no more, my God,
Thy gracious voice of power divine.
I want the boundless blessedness to me!
Saved, sealed, forgiven, renewed & blessedly Thine.
O speak, O speak the word!

Bonar.

Evening Devotions.

Jno. Bellamy & Son. Norw. Mss.
Sacred Songs, Seventh Series.

When night doth in her mantle come,
And darkening shades the skies invest,
And stars begin the heavens to adorn,
'Tis sweet to put aside all care,
And lay the body down to rest,
In peace to wait the hallowed morn.

O Thou Who hast an ear to hear,
When contrite souls to you implore,
And ask for Thy forgiving love,
To Thee manifest a lowly prayer,
Thy Spirit's gracious influence send,
And pour Thy blessings from above.

Apply the Savior's precious blood,
Wash all my stains of guilt away,
And make me pure before Thy throne;
Fold me in Thy paternal arms,
Deliver me ever from the stray:
Come and seal me Thine own.

Lyric Poems:

consisting of eighteen

Devotional Hymns.

By John M. Putnam.

Contents.

	Page.
Prayer,	3
Morning Devotion,	5
Holy Living,	7
Redemption,	9
Evening Devotion,	11
Trust in God,	13
Repose,	15
Nearer to Jesus,	17
The Holy Spirit invoked,	19
Looking upward,	21
Death,	23
The Aged,	25
Faith,	27
Heavenly Rest,	29
The Sabbath,	31
Contrition,	33
Confidence in Christ,	35
Heaven,	37

Hymn 3 1.

Prayer. 135

Pray without ceasing. 1 Thes. 5:17.

How precious is the throne of grace,
Where saints pour out their souls in prayer!
What blessings cluster round the place!
How rich the joys that center there!

There is no spot this side of heaven,
That's more to be desired than this;
To know where sweeter joys are given,
Or where we feel a higher bliss.

Here from the storms of life, we find
A resting-place — a sure retreat:
Leaving all earthly cares behind,
With joy we seek the mercy-seat.

My God, give me a heart to fix upon this place;
& may I prize it more & more:
Till there thou dost impart fresh grace,
And manifest Thy saving power.

Amen

Here we have foretaste of the bliss,
Soon in the glorious realms above,
Where angels dwell — where Jesus is,
And every heart shall fill with love.

Hymn 2.

Morning Devotion. 3

My voice shalt thou hear in the morning. Ps. V. 3.

The morning breaks! glory to God
Most high — the God of boundless might;
Being from whom all goodness flows,
Great Giver of all life & light.

To thee I raise my waking eyes,—
To thee lift up my soul to pray:
My God, I bless thee for the light,
The glories of the opening day.

And as the sun athwart the heavens,
And o'er the earth, shall shed his rays,
So thou, with brighter beams, illume
My soul, & fill me with thy praise.

Help me, this day to do thy will;
My pathway gild with light divine;
Inspire my soul with peace & love,
And henceforth make me wholly thine.

(Amen.)

Let us not heed the temptations
to sin from thy counsels turn aside;
In all my thoughts & words & deeds,
May thy good Spirit be my guide.

Hymn 3

Holy Living. 195

Create within me a clean heart, O God. Ps. 51.10

O Lord, on me thy grace bestow;
Help me the perfect will to know;
And give all my mind & heart,
To feel & obey thee wert.

Let passion, selfishness & pride,
And every foe to grace be slain;
Stamp thine own image on my soul,
And let thy love within me reign.

O crucified by the Saviour's bleeding wood,
May I in grace & knowledge grow,
And have that peace & joy in God,
Which none but heaven-born spirits know.

Fit me for that blest abode,
The bright inheritance above,
Where redeemed souls forever sing
Redeeming grace & dying love:—

Tolleen touches Elohim Adonikon,
Their sevenfold notes of music raise;
And every heart & every tongue,
Swells the loud jubilee of praise.

Hymn 6.

Redemption. 16s

Thou hast redeemed us to God by thy blood Rev 5: 9.

What glories gather round the cross,
Where Jesus died that we might live!
For this, we count all else but loss;
For this, our highest praises give.

Of all the rapturous songs of bliss,
Sung by the heavenly choirs above,
There's none to be compared to this,—
The wondrous song of dying love.

Ho, all ye ransomed, come as one;
In cheerful notes your tribute bring
To him who sits upon the throne,—
Your risen Lord, & glorious King.

Ye saints, with holy angels vie,
In paeans of immortal praise:
O lift your hearts & voices high,
—'tis yours to heaven your anthems raise.

Hymn 5

Evening Devotion. 13

"I will both lay me down in peace & sleep. Ps. 4: 8.

When night o'er earth her mantle spreads,
And buried Shades the skies invest,
'Tis time to shut each weary eye,
And lay the body down to rest.

O thou who hast an ear to hear,
When contrite souls before thee bend,
Do thou now listen to my prayer;
Thy Spirit's gracious influence send.

Purify me in the Saviour's precious blood;
Wash all my stains of guilt away;
Fold me in thy paternal arms,
Nor let me err from thee to stray.

With loving kindness compass thou
My bed: my every thought control,
And let the bosom of thy love
Be the sweet pillow of my soul.

(Collyer.)

I should rest in perfect peace,
From every anxious thought made free;
To wait his will to serve,
In the path to his heart, O God, to thee.

Hymn 6.

Trust in God.

Truly my soul waiteth upon God. Ps. 62:1.

In all life's changing scenes, its cares,
Its toils, its comforts, & its woes,
Under thy guardian care, my God,
I rest secure from all my foes.

Tho' waves of trouble o'er me roll,
I see in all thy hand of love;
The storm may rage, the tempest howl,-
My steadfast faith still looks above.

When nature's final struggle's hust,-
The battle fought, the contest o'er,-
And my freed spirit takes its flight,
To dwell midst earthly scenes no more:

Then, Savior, be thy chariot near,
To bear me to the upper skies,
Where songs of joy & victory,
In strains of holy rapture rise.

15.

Hymn 7

Repose.

So he giveth his beloved sleep. Ps 127:2.

Now, heavenly Father, give repose;
With love's soft hand my eyelids close;
From every worldly care release:
Nor let my slumbers be oppressed,
With doleful dreams that break my rest,
And thus deprive my soul of peace.

Safely, & sweetly, may I sleep,
While angel-bands their vigils keep,
Encamped as guards around my bed:
And when I wake, O holy Dove,
Light up anew the flame of love;
Thine influence on my spirit shed.

Peaceful as down to rest I lie,
So may I learn in peace to die,
Reposing on my Savior's breast:
Encircled in his arms of love,
All threatening ills I'll rise above,
Joyful in hope — divinely blest.

(Over)

When Jordan's dark & cheerless flood,
Shall chill the current of life's blood,
And cool fond nature's dying strife,—
Blest Savior, then thy love display,
And bear my spirit safe away
To realms of bliss & endless life.

17

Hymn 8.

Nearer to Jesus.

Lord, help me Matt. 15:25.

Jesus, hear me when I pray;
Bend thine ear to what I say:
Nearer I would live to thee,
And from every sin be free.

My cold heart do thou inspire
With a warm & pure desire,
Nearer yet to live to thee,
And from every sin be free.

Thou whose glory fills the sky,
Teach & guide me with thine eye:
Nearer let me live to thee,
And from every sin be free.

Thou hast died that I might live;
My whole soul to thee I give:
Ever let me live to thee,
Here, & in eternity.

Hymn 9.

The Holy Spirit invoked.

He will guide you into all truth. Matt. 16:13.

O Holy Ghost — Spirit divine!
My humble prayer do thou attend;
Visit this anxious breast of mine;
With thy reviving power descend.

'Tis thine to sanctify the heart,
And make the guilty conscience pure,—
To bid all sinful thoughts depart,
And perfect holiness secure.

My sins are great — yet boundless love
Invites me to the throne of grace:
O let me witness from above,
Sweet smiles from my Redeemer's face.

O make me holy, — more & more
Like happy souls that dwell on high;
There, with glad voices, they adore
In heaven-taught strains that never die.

(Over)

O let me daily grow in grace,
And in the knowledge of my Lord:
Help me to run the Christian race,
And perfectly obey thy word.

Hymn 10.

Looking Upward

Looking for that blessed hope. Titus 2:13

What wondrous visions fill the mental eye,
As we survey the happy realms above.
And see, in that, the skies laid open high,
In the last mansions of eternal love:

No night is there – no tears, or mental gloom;
But every bosom glows with pure delight.
There fragrant, thornless flowers forever bloom:
No heavy frosts are there – no chilling blight.

But O, what did that heavenly blessing cost,
What was the price the blessed Savior gave,
To rescue sinners, perishing & lost,
And, from eternal death, their spirits save?

Alas! for us, he bowed his head, & died!
From his pierced side he poured the crimson flood!
For us, our glorious Lord was crucified: –
We are redeemed by his own precious blood.

O in what terms shall we our homage bring?
In what seraphic notes pour forth our praise,
As we may to magnify our king,
And celebrate the wonders of his grace?

While ages roll, in the vast world above,
From every tongue the highest praises given:
O who can ever estimate that love,
That makes an heir of death, a child of Heaven?

213
Hymn 11.

Death.

To die is gain. Phil. 1. 21.

213

Mysterious Death! & when shall I
Thy portals pass, & dwell on high?
When will that curtain lifted be
That hides me from eternity.

When earthly visions fade away,—
When death's dark shadows round me play,—
Then, Savior, cheer my fainting heart,
And, from thy fullness, strength impart.

O let me triumph over sin,
And over death the victory win;
Then raise me to thy holy throne,
Where sins & sorrows are unknown.

There may I sing redeeming love,
With the celestial choir above:
In notes more sweet than angels rain,
May I chant forth immortal strain.

25

Hymn 12.

The Aged.

To be with Christ – is far better. Phil. 1: 23.

Wouldst thou, my aged friend, be young once more?
Wouldst thou again embark on life's rough sea,
Hadst thou but got so near the wished for shore,
The opening portals of eternity?

To take this backward course is not my choice;
Rather, I onward press to gain the prize, –
Onward! until I hear my Saviour's voice,
Calling me home to mansions in the skies.

I've seen enough of sin, & vice, & crime,
Filling the measure of life's cup below;
I see on high, a fairer, purer clime,
Where, freed from sin, my spirit longs to go.

My faith looks upward to that blest domain,
Where dear departed friends, & saints, & angels, –
Where blood-bought souls in robes of purity shine,
Midst the full glories of the Lamb's own throne.

27

Hymn 13.

Faith.

We walk by faith, not by sight 2 Cor 5:7

O for that overcoming faith,
That gains the victory over sin,-
That breaks the unhallowed ties of earth,
And gives true peace within.

Faith makes the heavenly visions clear;-
Drives painful doubts & fears away:
It brings eternal glories near,-
Turns darkness into day.

O why distrust our Father's word!
Behold the riches of his grace!
Has not the ever-loved Lord,
Been true in all his ways?

Tho' deepest anguish swell the heart,
We need not sink when Christ is near;
He loves to take the mourner's part,
When sinking in despair.

L. S.

O Lord, do thou increase my faith,-
Let me not doubt thy love & power,
But trust to what thy Spirit saith,
Tho' dark the passing hour.

Hymn 14.

Heavenly Rest. 254

There remaineth a rest to the people of God. Heb. iv. 9.

254

How sweet it is to die,
And from earth's labours rest!
To dwell with Christ on high,—
In him be ever blest!
To have our griefs removed,
Our sighs & sorrows o'er,—
And dwell with friends beloved,
Where partings are no more!

O city of my God,
I love to think of thee!
Safe in thy blest abode,
My Spirit fain would be.
No clouds are there — no shades
To check the sunbeam's play,
Where steady light pervades
The bright, eternal day.

(over.)

There no rude tempests rise,
Nor storms their fury pour;
No lightnings rend the Skies,
Nor fearful thunders roar:
But all the air is peace,
In every bosom love;
And endless the increase
Of bliss enjoyed above.

37

Hymn 15.

The Sabbath. 85

How amiable are thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts! Ps. 84: 1.

Hail, holy day! I love thee well!
The day on which my Savior rose,—
Conquered the powers of death & hell,
And triumphed over all his foes.

Blest Sabbath day! I love thee well!
Emblem art thou of rest in heaven,
Where ransomed souls in glory dwell,
And everlasting peace is given.

Sweet day of rest! I love thee well!
Thy dawning light with joy I greet;
I love to hear thy deep-toned bell,
Which bids the great assembly meet.

O holy day! I love thee well!
How glorious is thy voice of praise,
As from the organ rich notes swell,
And saints their loud hosannas raise.

(over.)

O may I spend this sacred day
In prayer, & praise, & deeds of love;
Thus may I here prepare the way
To join in nobler praise above.

33

Hymn 16.

Contrition. 191

A broken & a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise. 83. 51:17.

191

O God of mercy, hear my prayer;
My load of sin & guilt remove:
Let me thy tender mercies share;
I die — without thy pardoning love.

Look down, & lend thy gracious ear,
As prostrate at thy feet I lie!
Behold the penitential tear, —
The burdened breast — the contrite sigh!

Can such a sinful worm as I,
Be by a holy God forgiven?
Can one so vile be raised on high,
And made to taste the bliss of heaven?

(over)

Yes, there is an open Fount,
Filled with the Savior's precious blood;
And tho' to heaven my sins may mount,
There's strength to heal in that pure flood.

To thee, dear Savior, I would fly;
In thy kind arms 'tis sweet to rest:
Tho' clouds o'ercast my wintry sky,
Thy smiles can cheer a soul distressed.

O wash, & make me clean within;
From every evil guard my way,
And here on earth let heaven begin,
And no more let me go astray.

Hymn 17.

Confidence in Christ. (47)

Peace, be still. Mark 4: 39.

When ocean heaves, & storms beat high,
And threat'ning billows lash the sky,—
Let no distrust my bosom fill,
The Savior whispers, "Peace, be still."

Confiding in his matchless power,
I rest, unawed, the darkest hour;
When winds my trusting bosom thrill,
The words of Jesus, "Peace, be still."

Nerves may rise, & dark waves roll,
Christ is almighty to control;
Nothing can brave his sovereign will,
He says to oceans, "Peace, be still."

Let Jesus tell me he is mine,
And I am his,—I all resign.
Onward I press,—fearing no ill;
These words shall cheer me, "Peace, be still."

Hymn 18.

Heaven.

The Lord's throne is in heaven. Ps. 11. 4.

What glories fill that wondrous world of light
Called Heaven! There sits the Savior, throned on high,
Diffusing all around unmixed delight,
While loud hosannas fill the lofty sky.

How sweet the music of the choir above,
Where holy angels touch th'immortal lyre,
Where every heart expands with holy love,
And feels the glow of pure seraphic fire.

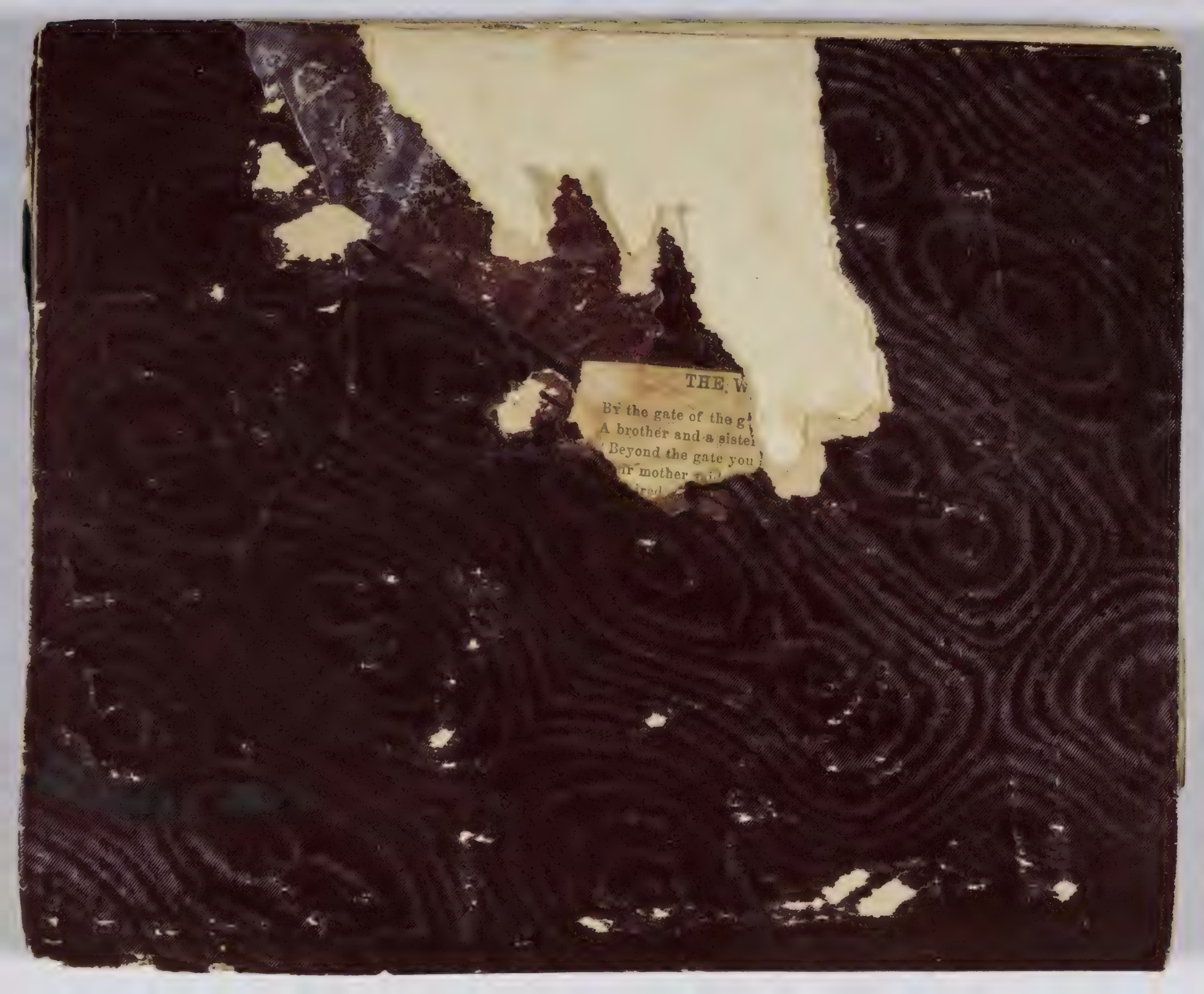
O when shall I unite with that blest throng
Who thus around the throne their voices raise?
When to that heavenly choir shall I belong,
Mingling my voice in their right songs of praise?

O glorious State! O pure & blest abode!
Where weary souls find their eternal rest;
And, in the bosom of their covenant God,
Taste sweet ambrosial fruits—supremely blest.

(over)

O to be there! where my dear Savior is,
And see the radiance of his beaming face—
Filling all heaven with highest, purest bliss,
As he unfolds the wonders of his grace.

Sorrow & sin, weeping, & pain & care,
Shall find no place in that bright world above;
But life, & light & joy, forever flow
From the pure fount of God's unchanging love.


THE W
By the gate of the g
A brother and a siste
Beyond the gate you
r mother

I called last evening at your lodgings but found you had left for the night. I intended writing you a letter before but I have not had a chance, I shall send a letter in this envelope as soon as I get your letter, that I was a private, or later on as corporal, & I had received that appointment from the Governor, before I was a Captain I was in the fourth. That, as you know, I received the appointment from the President on the 12th of this month, I was assigned to the 20th Regt U.S. Col'd Troops, now stationed on this Island. I left Fort Ethan Allen as soon as I

got my appointment, and
as fast as I could, I have been
here now for a few days
and as far I like very well
I have charge of a full com-
pany of men, just recruited,
which I shall have to organize
and discipline. I have been
very busy since I came here
and shall probably have
to work pretty hard for a
month or two, I think the
negroes will make very
good troops when they are
well disciplined, and as
far as I can see they learn
quick, I drill my company
every day, and I have no do-
ubt but that in a few months
I can get them in as good
trim as any white troops
ever were, I don't care for
any better soldiers, Perhaps

you could like to know how I got my commission, I will tell you. There is a Board of Examination established at Washington of which Gen. Casey is the President, to examine any one and especially the young men in the Army for commissions in the Colored Troops. I passed the Examination, I was much more fortunate than I expected, and I shall probably now follow the military profession for some years to come. If I can get a leave of absence I shall surely come and see you but I am afraid that I can't - that is one long enough. You don't know how much good it did me to get your letter

I didn't know but that you had forgotten me entirely, but I see that you have not. I am glad you thought of the soldier, far away from his friends. I have had many a bitter moment & can assure you I have felt almost like cursing my existence it seemed so horrid, I would lose my faith in Christ almost. Can you believe that. But I cannot lose him, without him I am darkness itself. I was feeling a little "blue" when I got your letter, & cheered, I see that I was not entirely forgotten. I feel happy now, the future looks bright before me, I am no longer bound down by an iron destiny, the path to fame and honor now lies open before me, I am so busy now that I cannot write any more, but if you will write to me more

Port Hudson
March 27th 1864

My Dear Cousin

I have made somewhat of a voyage since I wrote to you last; I left New York on Saturday March 5th, and arrived here last Tuesday morning, and on the same day pitched our tents, and rested our weary limbs on this famous battle ground. Port Hudson is situated on a high bluff - the village itself is very small and insignificant, comprising not more than half a dozen houses - and those of the most primitive and rusty appearance - I enjoyed my voyage here very much in spite of the horrible sea-sickness that I experienced part of the time. I saw many things that I never saw before - I saw some real mountain scenes. They did seem

to touch the angry skies - I saw some sharks, and big ferocious looking animals they were too, I was glad that I was far out of their reach - I saw the flying-fish - they would really fly - springing out of the water and planeing along for two or three hundred yards - sometimes I could see half a dozen of them flying the blue air at the same time - I noticed the Nautilus too with his tiny vessel, and his finely colored canvas spread to the breeze - sailing in grand style over the blue and boundless deep, no doubt - enjoying in splendor and comfort the elegance of our ocean - steamers - We passed the Florida Reefs, and I could see the remains of ships that had been wrecked - this pleased, and was thankful that we had blue skies and fair breezes to waft us by it - We experienced stormy weather coming up the Gulf, and I had a second attack of the sea-sickness - which passed off as soon as we

entered the mouth of the Mississippi.
There is not much beauty of scenery
about the Delta of the Mississippi, low
lying and desolate-shore - muddy and
dingy with waters - no hills or gleaming
villages to relieve the view. As we
came up however the beauty of the
scenery increased. We saw more
signs of civilization, there was not
so much monotony in the appearance
of the shores, we could see among groves
trees with the Spanish moss - hanging
from them in beautiful festoons -
neat looking cabins - now and then
large fine plantations - where we could
see something of the magnificence of
Southern edifices. There was a perfect
furor of delight - among the darkies -
as we sailed up the mighty stream -
they hailed our appearance with every
manifestation of pleasure, grinning, haw-
hawing, yelling - waving of hats - and
aprons - and quee capers on the "light-fan-
tastic toe" in the real old Juba style.

We arrived at New Orleans on Sunday morning where we lay until afternoon - when we started for this place in that I had no opportunity of viewing the city - except from the waters. Gen Banks was here to receive the next day after we came here - and I saw him for the first time. I have been very busy ever since I came here - and not until to day have I had a chance to write. I shall try and enjoy myself here as much as I can - though it is not a very promising spot - I presume we shall remain here two or three months, to perfect ourselves in drill - when we shall probably see active service.

Please write us soon as you can. I should have written before - but I thought it best to wait - until I got down here for I should have more to say - I shall write to Uncle John soon as soon as I get time.

My respects to your husband - and to cousin Jennie - hoping that you are all well. I remain

your cousin
Sam

New Orleans La
April 18th 1864

My Dear Cousin Nellie

Do not be frightened at the appearance of this sheet, But the fact of it is, that I have neglected to write to you for so long that I now undertake to write upon one of a small envelope. Since I wrote to you last I have been kept very busy. In the first place I have been out into the field. We were suddenly ordered away from Camp Parapet on the 25th of December last. We went to West Pascagoula Miss. to assist Davidson's cavalry to disembark from there we went to East Pascagoula where we remained until the thirty first of January when we went to Carrollton at the mouth of Mobile Bay. We spent as much as could be spared to be sent forward to Mobile, but it seems that we can be of no benefit to the city, So on the 2d of February we returned. We are now stationed at Woods Barracks on Canal St, right in the center of the city. We are doing guard duty they keep us quite busy. I have been on some kind of duty most every other day since I have been here, Besides I have had quite a lot of recruits join my company, and I have had to drill and look them in, which I can assure you is quite an undertaking. Since I came out a year ago last February I have lost in my company thirty by death, nine by

deficiency, on six by inspection, I supply this deficiency I have had between forty and fifty men. You see how hard a company commander and how much labor it requires to keep it up. There is a good deal to be done in taking charge of a company. We have to see in the first place that the men keep their muskets in a neat and clean condition, We don't allow the least bit of rust upon the outside of the gun, a speck of dirt upon the inside. If we do we punish them, then we have to see that they keep their knapsacks in a good condition, their clothes clean, and that they have enough of them, the company commander is responsible for all the the property that is in his possession. If a musket is lost or anything connected with it, he must pay for it unless, he can properly account for it. He is responsible for all the clothing that is issued, every article is to be charged separately to the man, whatever each one gets, and if you fail to know to whom you issue the clothing you have got to pay for it yourself. Every month we have to send to Washington Returns of whatever clothing we have had, every single article is to be accounted for no matter if it isn't worth a quarter of a cent, and whatever we don't account for we have to pay for, Every three months we have to make similar returns of Ordnance, and every musket or accoutrement that we cannot account for we must pay for, So you see that a Captain does not by any means have an easy time, I have been hard at

work to straighten up my accounts, and I have had a good deal to do for I was somewhat behind. But I am about right now. I have not had to pay for anything yet. I have likewise got my company into pretty good working order. The recruits are now all drilled, and I hope to have a little easier time hereafter.

What tremendous news we have been hearing for the past few days. Richmond is taken, Lee has surrendered, the war is no doubt over, I hope I shall be able to come home this summer but I presume that the government may require me a little longer. But the great struggle is ended, there is some satisfaction in that, to think that our old flag has triumphed after all, and that peace is to visit once more our beloved country — All I claim that we have put a mighty stubborn enemy, and I long to see it demonstrated.

But what terrible news we have received. Abraham Lincoln has been assassinated. What a fiend in spirit the south is displaying, what revenge will we take upon them, I am apprehensive it should be shot. The rebels have just been looking for our regiment to fall in under arms. There is said to be riot down the city, I am so excited that I can hardly write. Some more I can

ready to that every man that dares to murder
in any way shape or manner the slightest
in relation to our glorious flag, I do hope
that I shall have one chance to fight before
for the war is over, I see by the papers
that they have already shot one copper
head in Illinois, I am glad of that, that
every one of them ought to be served
the regiment has just fallen in, from
off of the dress parade, We are now
encamped in the woods but in good
and fine condition, I dare let the
rebels try it if they want to, we are
enough for them, even if we are
many regiment, We can fight them
We must have many blows, civilized
I must write and mail it now I will
write until see & but the prospect of an
"early" [illegible]

What you write to Sabbath will be well,
they the first opportunities know better, [illegible]
[illegible] a living man of I have any one
agree with the commandments of Abraham Lincoln
I will shoot him at once, Thursday (What
further punishment we will inflict upon the
South for this dastardly act But you keep
cool kindly believe me here, It is [illegible] if I have
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
to Mrs. McFadden, Please give [illegible]

Direct-4-26th Regt. U.S. Col'd Infty New Orleans.

Carrollton La July 7th 1864

My Dear Cousin

You must excuse me for not having written to you before but I have been kept so busy since I received your letter, and having been a little lazy withal, and procrastinated writing when I should have written, that I find that I have got into mid-summer without having answered your letter, Time flies fast, and although I do not enjoy it so much as I could wish, yet I am glad to have it go so swiftly by. I believe that I was at Port Hudson when I wrote to you last. From there our Regiment went to Pass Cavallo, Matagorda Island Texas. We remained there four weeks, It is one of the loneliest spots on the face of the earth, all sand and nothing else. There are no trees on it, only little shrubs. You can then you would come across a blooming bed of cactus flowers, but alas that they should waste all their beauty and splendor upon such desert air. Some natural curiosities were to be seen, such as horned frogs, tarantulas, and the sensitive plant

which shrinks at the slightest touch But after all I never felt so homesick as I did upon that bleak and desolate island, That was I when one morning, we received unexpected orders to strike our tents and prepare for a removal that same day - We left that island on the 16th day of May - or there abouts, and after a pleasant passage of three days landed in New Orleans, We were immediately ordered to Carrollton, about eight miles from the city to a place called camp Parapet - It is one of the finest places for a camp in the world, There are plenty of groves in every direction, fruit trees, flower gardens, every thing almost - that can delight the eye, I am just me enjoying to a certain degree the splendor and luxuriance of the Tropical clime Our men are in a fine condition, most of them are in good health, I never enjoyed better health in my life than I do now, At present I am living sweetly upon ripe figs, They are most delicious eating, They are so sweet and soft and fresh - so kind of heavenly - Take a fig that is so ripe that it bursts open it just melts in your mouth with liquid sweetness - But the most exquisite - luxury of all

air figs and milk - that" caps the climax. O. This is just the climate for an invalid - and besides we have plenty of melons bananas, and such kind of fruit. I make out on the whole enjoy myself first-rate. I have been to the city several times, It is a very gay place - but I do not admire it. It cannot in my estimation compare with any of our Northern capitals. It has not the intellect - the society - the resources for amusement that is possessed by New York or Philadelphia. But after all it is quite an interesting spot as being the scene of Butler's most brilliant administration. Did you know that Gen. Banks, was to use a very expressive phrase "played out" Everybody despises him. The "men" laugh at him, and the soldiers hate him. His military failures are a disgrace to him, and his political course is dishonorable - How different he is from what he used to be. He has been clear shorn intellect some how or other has become blunted, and he is almost in his dotage. And from much I have been disappointed in Fremont - I thought he was a patriot, a true friend

of Humanity." But I look upon him now in no other light - than as a dangerous citizen striving to overthrow his country for the sake of gratifying his personal animosities. He is worse than Catiline. He is willing to unite with the basest of men and do it for the purpose of overthrowing Abraham Lincoln, what a brilliant and splendid name he has deserved. Even if he had never been President - his fame would have been truly glorious and honorable, but now he will go down to posterity, covered with infamy.

But Grant, is he not a hero. How persistently I pray that he will take Richmond and I do believe that if any mortal man can take it - he can - What a glorious day that will be, when at the head of our triumphant troops he marches into the Rebel strong hold - May that day not be far distant. I do want to get home, I am "awfully" sick of war.

But I see that I must stop. Please write soon - and I will try and be more prompt next time. From your own

Sam Putnam

Camp in Front of New Orleans Sept 21 1864

Please answer by return mail as I want to get one letter more before I write home.

My Dear Cousin

I received your kind letter a few days since, and I take the first opportunity to answer it. For fear that I may be disappointed in obtaining leave, I must confess that at present I am enjoying myself very much indeed. I am now stationed with my company at the Jour Building, an edifice of immense size, on the bank of the Mississippi, in the lower part of the city. It was originally erected for an Orphan Asylum, at an expense of two million dollars. But it was never completed, and the war broke out has been sold to the Gov. It is now used as a Recruiting depot for the colored troops. Since I have been down here nearly five thousand have been conscripted and enrolled into the army of the United States. They are able bodied men as far as I can observe and willing to become soldiers. There has been no resistance to their conscription so far it has been peaceably carried. There has not been the slightest disturbance nor not the slightest prospect of the sort. I would try to make you believe, for my part I see no more in the draft, it meets our views, and I know it is my mind that our government is bound to succeed.

I suppose you think that I have endured this hardship, I can't say

I have been very fortunate. I have seen no fighting, have had no marching, have endured none of the privations of a soldier's life except the one of not having been paid off for almost six months. But that is not so bad as it might be. However although I can sympathize with you and would wish to share I do not dare to indulge myself in any anticipations of the future. We were ordered at any time to the field, I cannot say that I have any wish to go; I have no desire to see any fighting it is too dangerous. But if I ever go to the field I shall be there first as well as I can. I am ready for whatever I may be called upon to do in the line of my military duty, but the easier I can get along the better. I do not that mistaken; I have not been reading Spectator, through, and I assure you that I feel quite wise. Are you reading any books now? I have read Babalo, do you like that novel? I am going to read Les Miserables now I have read part of it, but I have not had time yet to finish it. I have considerable time to read, and I am going to improve it. That is if the government does pay me off, so that I can get to work. Reading and writing and receiving letters are the occupations with which I intend to while off the tedious hours of my captivity, if I can get out of the army without being murdered I shall consider myself lucky. I do not like [illegible] You see we are permitted to purchase most provisions and all kinds of liquors, and it has made a constant struggle to re-

power and integrity. If it were not for what
and hurt in Christ I hardly know what I
should be. My Christian faith is not always
as strong as it should be, but it never utterly
dies out, and I cannot forget what I have learned
at home, and in my wildest rush of passions
I cannot entirely estrange myself from God.
I feel stronger in my faith now than I have
ever yet felt. I have had some very dark
moments. I have trembled on the verge of ruin.
I have been tempted to give up my God-
fearing, and reckless in the pursuit
of pleasure, no matter what might be the
consequences. But I have been preserved from
this. I do believe that Christ will save me, I trust
in him, and him only. My mind is not all clear
now by any means. It is full of darkness
but I know that there is no joy and no peace
without it. (I have been sick of late, I have been
willing to rush amid the wildest tumult
and battle if I could only find the rest that I wished
for. But this is a wicked and cowardly feeling.
If my passions are strong sometimes,
they remind me on it purely, that I
must wait them and learn again to live
by the rule of my feelings at times, not always, it
is. I feel quite calm and contented. Everything
is beautiful, the wide wide sea, the sky
above, the green and waving woods, it in-
spires a joy into my heart and brings over
the clouds that rest upon my brain. If I
could I would [illegible] [illegible] day [illegible]
evening, when I shall be amid more

mistaken, I hope that you will not
[illegible] portion is writing to you as
I do, but I really feel what I have said, but
I do not put it to that end to, I good-
deal of the poetry and romance of mili-
tation is being dispersed. I think I am
not as principled as I used to be. The world is
not divided into righteous and brilliant-
colored as it once used to be, I guess by the time that
I get out of the army I shall be willing to earn
my living in a common-sense manner-
I wish I could have been with you when Carrie
was there, you must have had a very fine
time. It makes me homesick to think of it-
However I do not believe the present war is go-
ing to last forever, Sherman has done glorious-
ly, and Grant is still pushing forward, I do
really think that this war will be finished
this year, But after all I hardly dare to con-
jecture the future, What do you think, and what
is the general opinion about you, I take
it you are coming pretty hard upon your
tale of hours nearly filled it quota, Don't, on
think that Lincoln will be re-elected Those
who I have any faith in McClellan. If he
is not he will be elected, I hardly know when this
war will be ended, But I'm that I must
bring this long letter to a close, I hope you are
not tired with it, Write me soon and give me
some good advice, you don't know how
much good a letter does me, Give my regards
to Mr. Mott &c, Lou is coming down and see
Father, I wish they would write to me [illegible] you can

Artemus Ward
(Jack Downing Neal)
The Howard - Donald E. Cleland
Doubleday - Marian Thornton
Washington - B. P. Thomas
Capitol - L. Rice-Jones

New Orleans, Nov. 24th 1861

My Dear Cousin,

I received your kind letter a few days since. To day is Thanksgiving and as I have not a great deal to do, I shall improve my time by writing to you. Don you think that I could improve it in any better way. You don't know what a pleasure it is for me to receive letters. They are like sunbeams, and drive away all darkness from my mind. That is, letters from friends, and I consider you to be one of my best friends. I have never seen you but a few times, but when I have seen you, you have been so kind and considerate, that I couldn't help liking you, and I think of you the same as I imagine I should think of my sister Sarah if she had lived.

I admire very much the "theology" of little Anne. It is very nice and childlike. Is it not really the theology that we all should believe. Is it not a grand and beautiful faith to believe that God "takes up in his arms" What finer idea can we have of the strong love of God for us, and the mighty protection he extends to us. Oh! how I love the benign and tender theology of Christianity

to the serene tone of Calvin. It seems some of these blessed happy days, when the sun is shining brightly in the sky, when the warm delicious air is full of music, when the bosom of earth throbs with delight, the hills the valleys, and the sparkling streams, that it seems then as if God took us "right up into his arms" such a calm intense joy pervades the soul, and we feel so sure that He is all around us, and over us, and our minds rest in full faith and confidence upon him, and our hearts beat with rapture. Oh what are all the schemes of Philosophy, its cold and calculating logic, as compared with this warm and quickening belief; just what the human heart needs, to sustain it in this dark world of sorrow. But you need not think that because I believe in the theology of Luther, I believe in that of Calvin. By no means. But I hope you will permit me to entwine the sweet beauty of his system with the bright-eyed flowers of this innocent and childish faith. I hope that Luther in heaven approves, and understands more thoroughly the doctrines of our faith, will still believe that "God takes us right up in his arms." What a beautiful testimony he not only takes us up, but he takes us right up with all the warm, loving embrace of parental

love, & what energy there is in that spirit. I will become it all my life-time. But I must stop, or else I shall fill my letter full of theology, without ever once coming down to the common affairs of life.

I am still at the same place where I was when I wrote to you last, excepting in the city of Washington, & you ask me how I spend my leisure time. I say pleasantly indeed when I have an opportunity to go to meeting, I go every Sunday except when I am on duty as officer of the day - when I am obliged to remain at the depot; & never that no disturbance of any kind takes place. During the week days I remain most of the time in my quarters, attending to my studies, but being put off I do not have much temptation to go out, I am somewhat acquainted in the city, but not as yet at all in the world. I am enjoying myself quite well & I am thankful that I am so fortunate. But I should not be at all surprised if next spring we were ordered into the field. I am willing to do anything to help put down this rebellion cheerfully & quickly, but I say let it last ten years before we finish it - in a manner the slightest - deepest dishonorable to us,

Louisville has been gloriously elected. It is quite a triumph. I should think the South would be by this time ready to give in. Several of the leading men of Georgia are somewhat inclined to secede. I understand too that the South is beginning to split upon the question of slavery. Does this not look as if the Rebellion was tottering to its base while the Rebels themselves are becoming more divided? We are becoming more and more united. I am glad to see that your town is in favor of the Union and government. If such spirit pervades the North how can the Rebellion be successful.

I wish that Cousin Jane would write me. I am sorry to hear that he is so unwell. I just hear he is working too hard. I hope I shall see Rome and see you one of these days. I got "Ben" over in a while, home sick. It seems a long time before I shall get out of this terrible mess. But I must suppose keep up my courage. I count it to get letters enough. So I hope you will write as often as you can. Give my love to Mr. Hall and my little cousins.

Yours truly
Cousin Sam. A. Richmond

Pembroke N. H.

Aug. 14th 1865.

My Dear Cousin

I rec'd your letter a few days since, you may perhaps be surprised to learn that I have left the army, but I did not like the profession, Therefore I resigned my commission, and I am now at home enjoying myself very much indeed, when I came home I came by way of Lin thinking some Cleveland but not knowing exactly where Elgin was. I did not stop, besides I was quite anxious to get home, I presume that Carrie has written to you in regard to my plans for the future, I have decided to enter the ministry, I like the Profession and I am willing to

devote myself to it heart and mind and soul - I think I shall settle at the West and for that reason I shall pursue my course of education at the West. I intend to enter the Chicago Theological Seminary this Fall, the Term begins on Wednesday the 27th of September - If it is a possible thing I shall be agreeable to your visit - Cleveland on my way out, perhaps spending the Sunday with you before the Commencement of the Term -

What do you think of my choice of a profession, Do you think it is a good one - I hope that I shall be able to fulfil its duties well, At any rate I shall try. I guess that by this time all the romance that I once had in my disposition is

pretty well shaken out - At
any rate I feel but little of
it - at present - We had a
very pleasant visit - indeed
from Uncle John - I never en-joy-
ed myself so much in my
life, and it was the same with
the rest - There was not a
cloud to disturb our happiness -
We ought to be thankful to God
that he has granted us a few
such happy days, and I am
sure that I am - They strengthen
me to endure all the difficulties
of the life that I have chosen to
follow - I suppose it will be a
long time before we shall all be
together again - Carrie and Frank
call me - We intend to enjoy
ourselves as much as we can
this summer - So far we have
succeeded admirably, we have
not lost no failure of our plans -

We are having a good time now-
We have some cousins with us
from Worcester, Mrs. Dupee and
her daughter - Do you see that we
have altered so much, but "the
more the merrier"

Father and Mother and Cousin send
Frank and their love to you all-
Frank says she is going to write
to you next week - We are all
well, and I hope that you are
the same -

Please write to me soon and tell
you not, and let me know if it is
convenient for me to visit you
at the time I mentioned.

Please give my love to
Mrs. Metcalf, and the "little folks."

I wish you were here this summer
with us. I want to see you very
much indeed, I think it must
be over ten years since
I saw you - How time flies -
I am twenty-seven years old -
I shall be thirty before I get my
graduation - Only think! But good
bye - from your cousin Nan

Chicago Ill
Oct 21st 1865

My Dear Cousin Nellie

I am just settling
settled down here finely, and
am enjoying myself very
much indeed, I am now
occupying a comfortable
furnished room in Hospital,
and I feel quite at home-
My room is nicely carpeted,
with two tables, two arm chairs
two rocking chairs, one cane-
-seated settee, two spring bed
stead, wash stand, bureau, &
other conveniences, in which
to keep our wearing apparel
& bedding, and bedding, enough
to keep us warm during the
coldest winter and a double blan
-ket for each. I like my hospital pretty

well after our tea I came out calling - I have a nice boarding place, where I feel quite at home - several ladies and gentlemen boarders with it which makes it quite pleasant - I have to pay $4.50 a week for board - coal is $22.00 a ton - though is quite an expensive place you see, I expect to receive $150.00 per year besides, now I think that I shall get along quite comfortably.

I went to Church Sunday last (Thursday) and have an invitation to get acquainted at the people in the neighborhood (Methodist) I find it quite different from the East, many be in (Indiana) I have not been long enough I have been in here on-

ing the last week. There
is not a great deal of news
to be had here —

I got the Cleveland
cars and found the night
I left Elyria — I got my
baggage checked, and then
went into a restaurant
and had an oyster —
As it was raining I did not
get into Chicago until three
o'clock in the afternoon — I im-
mediately came up to Kate's and
the name of the building where
she was — It is not quite
completed yet, but sufficiently
so for occupying it —
No person knows where
we are gone to as the friends
we often visit are all
Baptists. I remained on the
train that night — It is Sunday
& the 1st day Chicago

The next day I took my
dresses to get facing with—
but I feel that I will
wait "now" - It comes
so the hair for me to
take holes of Greek and
Hebrew. I have studied
about all the time to get
my lessons — I hope that
I can pass the hard bye
and bye — We have forty-
five students here now —
and a good class of
students too. We have two
daily prayer meetings
here, and very interesting
they are too —

But good bye — Love to
all. I have wrote home —
don't to Chicago the January
Union Park
Presbyterian Church —

Chicago Ill
Nov. 17th 1865

My Dear Cousin Nellie

I was beginning to fear that you had forgotten me, when your letter came safe and sound. Your speaking of writing to Uncle John put me in mind that I owed him a letter so I sat down and wrote him a great long one, and I am very much afraid that he will get tired reading it.

It is very pleasant to-day and I should like to be in Elysian tramping up and down Black River, but I must content myself with imagining that I am there. We are having the Indian summer now I suppose,

I went down last Thursday night to hear Mr. Garrison. It was a rare pleasure I can assure you. According to my idea he spoke "splendidly" although he is not much of an orator, I think that every word he said was true. By the way I see that Gen. Sherman has come out in his usual style, against the Copperheads. I think a great deal more of him than I did. Now I detest - this soldiers that come home and vote the ticket and run upon the platform of the Copperheads. But they have their reward, they will sink with their party.

How is little Annie, as lively as usual. How many times has the boys hammered to the head of their class. Some times they have got fingers and toes I expect by this time. And I suppose Mrs

Our Wisconsin summer was brilliant and successful ones.

I haven't kept track of the thanksgiving days in this State, so I don't know how many we are going to have, I don't expect to celebrate either one of them "to my hearts content." I should want to be at home to do that. A Turkey and plum pudding and mince pie taste better there than anywhere else.

I am sorry to hear that Cousin Jennie has been sick with a cold. Hope little Ned will be well of his whooping cough.

Remember me to Mr. and Mrs. Howes when you see them. I hope that Mary Ann Burnham won't go back to New England without trying her fortune at teaching in the West. I almost think that I shall go home next summer. The town

in April, so you see that I can go home a day quite a while, until the first of Sept. But if I get a good place to stay out here during the summer I shall remain. I am willing to go wherever the door opens in reply to me.

I have just received letters from Carrie and Frank. They are quite well, enjoying themselves as much as possible while teaching. They expect both to be at home Thanksgiving. I wish that I could be there. It has been a long time since I spent a Thanksgiving at home.

Please write to me as often as you - I am longing for the time to come when I can visit you again -

My love to Mr. Outcalf and all the children

Your truly
Jane

dearie. We want
write often if more
left over Wednesday
and Carry Thursday
We will be home
again. I am a
Can't see
Enjoy
that I am
this
Aug 6th

especially father and mother.
for they are very anxious indeed to see you, and would be dreadfully disappointed if they did not. If you conclude to go to J- first you can come from there to Penn broke in a half day.

Your Brother George is with us now, and we are having a nice time. He is going to preach at Concord to-morrow, and the Sunday after. His wife however is not with him. I think that I shall kind of call round at Yarmouth when I go back to Chicago, for I want to see Uncle John and George's wife, and his little boy, who I no doubt, is a smart as the "Putnams" always are,

I had quite a comfortable time getting over to Oberlin after I had gone a couple of miles I had a chance to ride which of course I improved, and I rode all the rest of the way in a "nice team" I called upon Jennie and had a very pleasant time, got to Worcester Friday afternoon, went down to Barton Saturday, heard Prof. Park Sunday morning & Dr. Kirk in the afternoon. At Communion, came home Monday night found Carrie here. she is going back today. Frank is coming home next Saturday, to remain a week, Annie Mc Luney is at home, I wish you were here now, it is beautiful weather. Father has just been

planting potatoes, but he and George are out talking about one thing and another. grape-vines. Peach-trees. apple-trees &c. I expect they are having a jolly good time. they have just come to the conclusion that the grindstone is alive and mother is glued to it. Mother is making pies. I shall help eat them. Carrie is out doors now talking learnedly about farming and gardening. She has just got through making up the beds. She is terrible lazy she didn't get up this morning until we have eaten breakfast. I get up now at six, and saw six sticks of wood. I have made arrangements to read a hundred and fifty pages of solid reading. including Greek & Hebrew. and philosophy and Theology and History. Do you think I have carry out my plans. Cousin George and I walked up to Carrolton last Thursday. Mr. Woodward invited us to

Mrs. Pelham
Pembroke N.H.

Pembroke N.H.
July 2nd 1866

My Dear Cousin Pettie

I am glad to hear that you have arrived East safe and sound, (once more I hope that you will give us a good long visit here as well as at Yarmouth,) I am getting to be real lonesome and I shall be awful glad when Carrie and Frank get home, and when you all get up here. I hope that Cousin George and his wife and Georgie, and Uncle and you and Mrs. will all come in a heap together. I want to know how George's horse is getting along. Don't you think that he is one of the elite of horsedom?

I get that Carrie will get home a week from next Saturday and Frank either at that time or a week later. I am going down to Northwood this week, to stay until after the 4th

I have got all through with what I am going to study this summer. I shall review up a little however before I go back. But I dont mean to kill myself studying you know. I should'nt consider it to much if I did. Of course you could stay all through the warm weather here, for you will melt if you undertake to go back now. I hope that you will stay until Sept.

I hope that this letter will find you all well. By the way I want to know if those Detroit School Books are in vogue now. I have a splendid

time reading them. Taylor Hay of Reno and Miss Mullen both like me quite a contrast to Greek and Hebrew. "Tis distance lends enchantment to the view" and I assure you that this is unmistakable truth in regard to the aforementioned languages, that are so dead that they are enough to kill anybody who studies them.

I expect that you will have a good time at your meeting. I enjoyed myself so much there, and hope that I shall be able to get over to another one of these days. Tell George that I have just finished my sermon, and I assure it was no easy task. I wonder what I shall do when I shall be under the necessity of writing one a week. It seems to me as if I should have to work.

But it is most mail time
and I can't write much
more. Besides I can't think
of much to write, my head
is real empty, not by any
means an unfortunate state
but an inconvenient one
when you want to write

Please give my love
to all, Tell Mary that she must
not let up in glorious rivalry of
Annie, tell Georgie to take
care, Tell Uncle John that he
must be nice and come up
here when you come if possible -
tell Cousin George that I like
Kirk's sermons very much indeed,
and Fannie, that "Rosendia
and was buried" therefore he could
not have been translated, and
above all tell the black horse to main-
tain a good character, keep his
nose clean, and not succeed -
for there are bad points about a horse
like him due to keep a good distance between
his gamble and his bone.

Please answer Yours truly
Nan

East-Cambridge, June 29, 64.

Dear Cousin Nettie,

I've delayed writing until I might know for certainty that I was coming. But I don't quite yet know. However I'll drop a line, lest you may be wondering. If Carrie could only go, I shouldn't hesitate; but now the fates seem against her. Would you, if in my place come alone? I'm a little inclined (that is literal, of course)

As my friends in Illinois have fairer claim to me than you, the bulk of my visit must be made there. I cannot remain with you and Jennie more than a week, if that: Carrie was intending to remain with you most of the time, that is, if agreeable to you. My Illinois friends are

Love, as ever, Carrie.

Mum, when you write to pay, be kind to poor Jane. She may not soon enough receive pay, I mean Carrie. So there's the end on her. I'm so sorry about uncle Mine & give up too. very likely shall. I'll go. You will hear from again soon, stating when you may expect me. Oh my, this! I fancy I shall enjoy a look at you — and Jennie & Co. I should write Jennie directly, if I only knew her address. Please tell me in your next. I received a nice letter from herself and cousin Hattie

This letter as you may see is written in great haste. How I wish uncle would go. Do you believe he would if — knew I was going? I mean by wish and do. I shall go in the course of 2 weeks if at all.

Love to all — in haste —

Yours with love,

Mum.

Then is not the part, I really fear—as
regards the case of some ministers—
the better part of valor. My case is
shaped according to the rule of wrong.
The programmers, I think, the in-
clination of the stream will favor
it! A second reward in diminished
knowledge, a principle of fairness
distinguish in self-denial. Means
them suggestion upon some—to think
themselves God I have undertaken. Wicked-
I will change the theme—for the sake
of having (my) pen, if not my ideas, more
easier. Did you know Lucie and
find a nation friend that we now pass
among, planning a Christmas visit in
our summer vacation? It is with
so. a Pine Grove in Illinois with whom
I formed a most intimate acquaintance
in Salt Lake, where my mind of
my coming on this season. We have
the very thoughts of going, & I would
wonder if I am. Lucie and I have

travel together as I guess we shall go.
My friends live a little beyond Chicago
are going there, visit. Expect in the
week and would join like. If we do
I will give you a call. It would like
fine Cousin Lettie to visit with like
the rest. I do suppose Cousin Jennie is
not there now. To what part of Illinois
is she going? If we go, we shall have the
pleasure of seeing her in Illinois. By
the bye I will answer as soon as I
get a letter by me in this for the reason
that I know not whence to direct it.
I should do answer it sooner
than this - but you know how our duty
letter writing. One is apt to put that off
till to-morrow each, there are things which
we consider the cause of procrastination.
This regiment - Rockford Co. 36th.
Ill. Cavalry Colonel Hall and the furlough
I was in, I said I have in mind. Col. Hall
if you let me know & I will write him
upon receiving from this [illegible]

I'll see if I can't manage it, & you please
send mail for me to the above mentioned.
Did you read an account of their
leaving, last Sat. the principal ladies
of the city presented them with a cockade
ribbon, by the way, some ladies conducting
possibly play for the entertainment
of colored persons. Singular that the style
of an age should so affect a woman's
mind & sentiments. I wonder if they had
difficulty in filling their lungs with
air, that they failed to be able to bloom.
Oh the glaring inconsistency there is in this
prejudice against color. Oh it is such
a magnificent specimen of American
social equality. Don't it progressing strange
that so righteous and humane a nation
should be so grievously afflicted.
Singular to think a cloud large enough
for us who so detest the color black, but
time it was that the cloud will hang there
till she loses the color.
You see that though my fingers, my

Cousin Jane
East Cambridge
Dec 8, 1863
Ellie G.

East-Cambridge, Dec. 8, 1863.

Cousin Nellie,

I owe [illegible],
before your inviting page. I shall
ever consciously attempt my own wickedness—
My guilt being the enormous one of not
answering before this your kind letter
of invitation and good wished which
was so pleasant to receive. The truth
of the matter is this; I've been so moved
around from place to place, that I've
scarcely had time to write any out-
side letters as mine absolutely required.

How I would like to accept your
invitation and come out to Lynn and
stay in the Great Rock; but the prive-
lege is not yet mine at present. I'm sta-
tioned East and I must remain.

I have a very pleasant situation, with a salary of £250, the first year £300, after that. The salaries have been very recently raised. I am an assistant in a Grammar School. My responsibility is not very great — not like that of a school wholly under one's care. I can therefore eat hearty meals, laugh with good relish, and enjoy sleep with non Tuition cares to molest.

I see I'm making blunders, Nellie, and that my penmanship is very doubtful, to say the least. Now will you let me write on and finish out the sheet — I, frightened at the thoughts of your dismayed countenance, again attempt another sheet? I have faith (or is it presumption) that you will be merciful if I continue, when I tell you I've several other letters to write tonight and time is hurrying me very fast.

I spent Thanksgiving week in

Worcester at Uncle Porter's with Carrie. I had a most delightful time. What a beautiful walk and how glorious was the Thanksgiving Day itself. I enjoyed it to the full. Carrie and myself took a glorious, long walk, after hearing a good sermon and in anticipation of a good dinner. Then we had such good news from the war trial - really it made the beautiful day most radiant.

We are having some glorious days just now; just cold enough for spice; clear and warm, a true Indian summer, glorious tinging all around the hues and variegated woods. Don't I admire such gifts of Heaven?

Cousin Annie's letter has been received and I intend to answer it very soon. How much those two letters made me want to go West. It roused high the waning fever till it threatened to prove fatal. I am at present, however, convalescent.

Sam has been removed from 4th Corps Staff and his regt has been consolidated with another. His address at present is as follows. Will it do any good to forward it to you? I'll try and see.

R. L. Pitman, Fourth Regt
New York Heavy Artillery, Washington,
D. C. I know your time must be taken up with domestic affairs, but can't you write him a little? It would do him even as much good. I know it, as did I receive, am so pleasantly busy, how must it be with my cousin who is married and subject to all its vicissitudes? Oh I can excuse you if you neglect both him and me but still — would rather you wouldn't do it.

Give my love to Jennie. Mother and Father are well as were when last heard from. I shall write to Uncle John soon. Ought to have written before this.

Have you and Jennie's family photographs on hand? If so, I know it will be a gratification to receive them. Laurie wished to be remembered to you when I wrote.

Cousin Jane

E. Cambridge

East-Cambridge,
Sept. 6, 1864.

Dear Cousin Nettie,

I can write you but a short letter this time - only sufficient to inform you of our safe passage home that I may keep my promise good which I made on leaving Lilyan.

We had a very pleasant time with Jennie, Sam & Hubert to, met Georgie Floyd as we had planned, and left Cleveland Tuesday night. We were delayed a little way from Buffalo over four hours on account of a freight train running off the track. We just reached Buffalo in time to take the cars for Niagara.

Good fortune followed us through everything - We had a glorious time at the Falls - Went over in a ferry-boat to the Canada side, took a carriage then to Table Rock - saw the Falls from almost every point - and oh, Nettie, it was magnificent - It does one to see this display of the power of God in Nature.

We both reached home in safety and are now at work. I never shall forget my pleasant summer vacation. It is charming to sit and think of it. How thankful I should be to God for guiding me so safely on my way. At every point there seemed a mighty hand extended to keep me from danger.

How do you all face at home? I'd like to look upon you now. Kiss Like & kiss my darling Emmer - Please remember me to all who care to inquire for me.

Ive had word from the West - that a letter was sent me at Elgin. Will you please inquire for it - and have it forwarded to me. I do hope not sent - in case of Mr. Metcalf; of course will not be put on your top. Oh dear! I keep thinking of the West - I wish I was there & yet - I love my eastern home - I have friends here whom I love so much. Im very pleasantly situated in my boarding - place - But Ive often letters that must be written - So, my dear, pardon this apology for a letter and let me hear soon from you -

Your own Jennie -

With love

Frank -

Cousin Frank
Jan 31, 1865

Dear Cousin Nettie,

Are you living? Do you know who is writing to you? It is I— even I— Frank— who looked in on your charming home last Summer and bore away with me charming memories, golden thoughts that lingers always in her heart. Now for a long time she has longed to know of you and your fate— but— hurry of time & work have made the moments few to spend in writing letters. But I know I shan't— dear if I don't write. If the mountain won't go to Mahomet— Why Mahomet must go to the mountain." Ah! Even so.

Cousin Frank
Jan 31, 1865
Dear Cousin Nettie,
Are you living? Do you know who is writing to you? It is I— even I— Frank— who looked in on your charming home last Summer and bore away with me charming memories, golden thoughts that lingers always in her heart. Now for a long time she has longed to know of you and your fate— but— hurry of time & work have made the moments few to spend in writing letters. But I know I shan't— dear if I don't write. If the mountain won't go to Mahomet— Why Mahomet must go to the mountain." Ah! Even so.
East Cambridge, Jan. 31, 1865.
Cousin Frank.
Jan 31, 1865
Dear Cousin Nettie,
Are you living? Do you know who is writing to you? It is I— even I— Frank— who looked in on your charming home last Summer and bore away with me charming memories, golden thoughts that lingers always in her heart. Now for a long time she has longed to know of you and your fate— but— hurry of time & work have made the moments few to spend in writing letters. But I know I shan't— dear if I don't write. If the mountain won't go to Mahomet— Why Mahomet must go to the mountain." Ah! Even so.
East Cambridge, Jan. 31, 1865.
Dear Cousin Nettie,
Are you living? Do you know who is writing to you? It is I— even I— Frank— who looked in on your charming home last Summer and bore away with me charming memories, golden thoughts that lingers always in her heart. Now for a long time she has longed to know of you and your fate— but— hurry of time & work have made the moments few to spend in writing letters. But I know I shan't— dear if I don't write. If the mountain won't go to Mahomet— Why Mahomet must go to the mountain." Ah! Even so.

How does Hattie DeWitt prosper? Remember me to her & sister & parents. How good and homelike it seems to talk of mutual acquaintances in Elyria, Ohio. Tell me what may have happened to any & everybody while there - that N. S. Singer, that indolent, handsome, artistic - I've forgot his name; that young lady who lived next you who went away to school - &c.

I've found out the Putnams - they rather found out one very soon after I came back from the West. Uncle John told them of me in a visit he made them in May. Miss Harriet Putnam called on me first - They live on Putnam St., Old Cambridge. You know I teach in the Putnam school. It made rather an amusing play on the name. Cousin John Putnam first

found my whereabouts and sent a note to his sister, something after this style. John Putnam would inform Miss Putnam of Putnam St., that Miss Frances Putnam is a teacher in the Putnam School. Pretty good that.

I believe I told you when there that I should be married next summer. I've changed my mind. It will hurry me too much and it costs too much. I shall take it easier. Do you blame me. I half dread being married. Say Nettie, does it pay? I know though what you said last summer, standing at the foot of the bed on which I was lying. Do you remember? God bless you, dear Nettie, and make you always happy.

My salary has been raised

to $4.50. Worth something - only it doesn't go far in these times.

I hear from Sam very often. He is now camping out -, is in Pascagoula now - does'nt know what is before him however -

He usually writes in good spirits - yet I know he has no special love for camp life who does? I only hope that an honorable peace may one day be ours. For it - you think the light grows brighter day by day? Purified may our nation one day stand, fitted through suffering to bless the world -

I wrote Jennie quite a long time since - tell her when you see her - please - she may never have received - Don't - Knows I've waiting long for an answer - will you? Love to all the family - Yours, Love.

E. Cambridge, Sept: 5, 1865.

Dear Hattie,

Don't discard me from your list of correspondents or declare me no longer a blood relation. Write me some more letters - do and say I am a "dear cousin" - Will you imagine how I missed you last term, how I'm sick part of the vacation and full of sewing that we had company, and then working with your imagination, let also your sorrow be increased and let me still be received into the family circle where such special interests and loves.

I have just returned from Lowell and am now in school a few days. I had

but little desire to enter upon the real life I am living, I am liking it much; after all employment brings with it a happiness and real peace and a finer self-respect than an easy life of indolence and self-gratification. God has been a wonderfully kind Father to me, and the beauty of his mercy, love and care grows upon me almost daily. His providences are marvellous if we but watch them ready to learn — do you not think so?

I cannot tell you how much I enjoyed Uncle's visit with us this summer. He is such a ready sympathizer in one's feelings, be they of joy or sorrow, that it wins the love very strongly. He united with us considerably. We walked with him on a few occasions. He knows. Above all, the pleasant

evening talks when all possible topics of discussion were raised. Those evenings were full of profit and pleasure. Uncle also gave me some counsel which I needed. Oh, Nettie, I love your father and you very much.

You must come to us next year. We arranged with Uncle to come to Yarmouth the first week of our next summer vacation and if you could only be there! Then after Lamie & I travel a little and come home, you & Uncle come and see us — oh, 'oo, 'O! You see I'm already planning ahead. I don't allow the big army of awful "ifs" to disturb my attempts to plan.

Mrs. Draper & daughter, from Worcester, spend three weeks with us. We enjoyed their visit very much.

We — that is Lamie, Dan, Cousin

Harriet - And daughter met myself took a trip to the lake - And wouldn't it - do you - poor Western - good to see the big hills - so lofty and strong - looking down upon us so benignly with their large sunny hearts - And then the water we glided through, its islands, the mist - coloring on the distant - land - vanished - oh give me a chance - for a long breath - and let me stop thinking - That trip with my charming western one shall ever remain to me a "thing of beauty" and a joy forever".

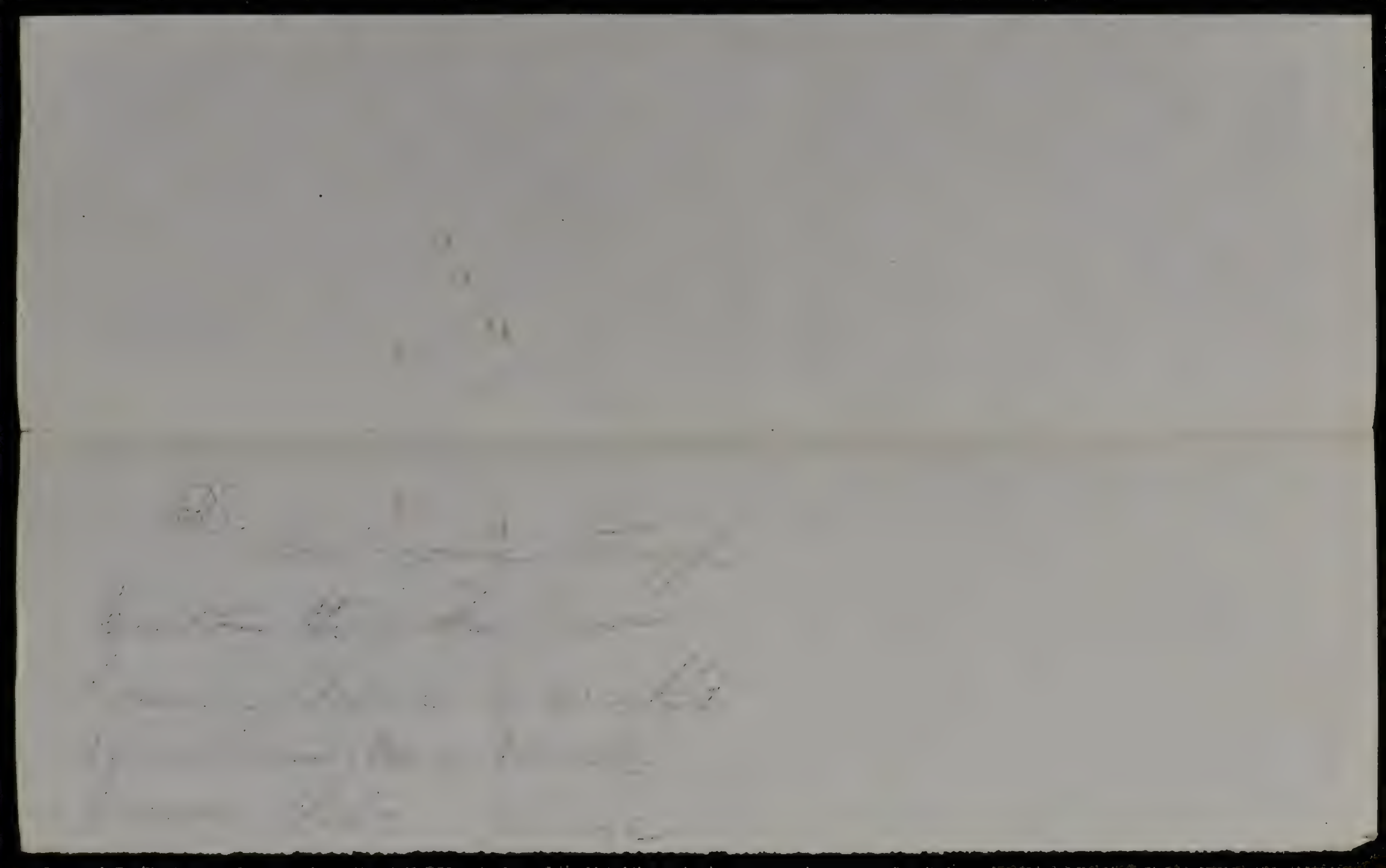
Sam is with me today. He started from home yesterday - He is in Boston today having his teeth fixed. He will stay with me till Saturday - then he will go to W. - I - He will be there a week - then start for the west, stopping at Rochester the Falls, and with you. I can't help feeling a little

E. Cambridge,
May 12, 1866.

Dear Cousin,

Sam tells me you are coming East -- Hurra! You must give me a night on your way through Boston. Please write and tell me when you intend to come and I'll be at the depot - Don't fail of giving me a night. I've been busy this long time but have not nor never shall forget - My dear cousin Nettie I'm back - with love to all -

Yours, Fran



at home about the 1st of the month, as matters look to be much unsettled. Davis & Sons down there under this excuse are having a longer vacation than usual in November which they are trying to do, but you must wait until we are both there — of course I will write you again & then if I am to change in either how or my vacation — I will be very likely with you. If not I shall not want to be so.

Your mother will be glad as well — & although I am sorry to say, Cecil Christmas will not be in your home.

Cecil told you I am not engaged and I'm not and please not say

anything to me without it.

Give my love to all.
Write Uncle if he does not
owe me a letter — & Aunt
Lucy — Mrs. Hutchinson
has a little son — & mother
& Ben Tan the other day. She
is doing nicely — and is hur-
rying to be in Boston soon
when then I shall see her
myself —

I write in haste —
Don't be always. Write me
soon about your arrangements
but I may not hear long
Must wait — & yours & Lucy
My dear Louisa — Ever —

Most truly
Yours

[illegible] 1846,

[illegible] your letter [illegible] I was
so glad it, and had we [illegible] dear Emilie I was
perfectly happy to receive letters from my dear sis-
ters. there to myself were speaking of you but
few moments before the letters reached us, we
hardly thought- that- a little winged messenger
was winging its way to us,
I cannot believe exactly that- so long a time has
[illegible] since I bade you farewell, but- it is so,
to me it will never be forgotten, though long
years may fly away, how much more sadness
should we feel, if it were not for a letter
winging its way to us, to tell us of welfare of
our absent and dear friends, Every thing is [illegible]
very and we find being [illegible] can will have fair
always gone to day with the wings we have as

to pursue miserable may we do this that
when our name has in this wicked and sinful
shall be seen it may be said unto us come
unto me and I will receive you. Sometimes I
fear that I do not come to the throne of grace
as often as I should. I fear that the things of the
world occupy so many of our thoughts
I have enjoyed myself very well this winter and
early but not as well as the spring time will be
I have expect to spend another season so pleasant
this last year is one of the pleasants of my life,
though I have seen many sad moments such
I never wish to be free from, the saddest are
seem pleasant to me, they bring back fresh to
my mind thoughts of my dear departed sister
who I can never forget or fail to write of
though you and many of my friends never saw
her, but it is a pleasure to write of her
the school has been very full and rather pleasants
I have found my time most all occupied this
term, my studies have pressed me rather closely
since I have written I have danced it in the evening
suppose you would like to know how I am
prospering in my studies, Sophia has got most
through the book of Joseph, there are only four
young ladies of us commenced French this term
I like it very well, Chemistry I later.
I am promising myself much happiness this winter

Pilmanton N.H.
Aug 9.

5

Pilmanton N.H.
Aug 9.

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Portsmouth
New Hampshire

with be a year. I cannot think it is so long ago that I bade my own Pattie and other friends farewell. this word awakens many hallowed and mournful association in my mind. a last farewell of a only sister a last kiss a look and many other little things which in themselves are nothing. there is one who has parted with such a friend are rich gems.

I received your letter dated at L— and in the same mail one from Lizzie. I'll assure you I was happy that night.

I am now at home spending my time pleasantly in studying Latin knitting sewing and assisting about the house. all of which I find very pleasant. I have read to the fables in the lessons and am now reading in the reader. Brother thought it

please when you write again direct to North Bay
best for me to leave the lessons at present.
I shall finish them some time this winter. I
cannot help liking Latin it is so interesting.
Jan 10th It is Sunday morning, excuse me Nettie
for addressing you on this day, it is very seldom
that I write; but being disappointed about attending
church to day, I can spend my time no better
than writing to my good friend Antoinette
I often regret that our people are not more
engaged for god. and sometimes I almost wish
I were my native town to go once to enjoy
those privileges that I once prized so little. yet I fear
I am not faithful enough to that being whom
I have chosen to follow.
another year has passed to be numbered with the
many. and with it another Thanksgiving day
methinks you may wish to know how I spent
the day, at home, neither down or west any
where a sad day it was to me. In the family
circle one was not with us she has gone to
her long home from whence no one ever
returns.
While speaking of her I will say that Mr Pickering
married I have never seen his wife and
am not acquainted with her. although she
has always lived within four miles of us.
The examination passed very pleasantly The
exhibition was in the hall I presume I shall be

read one of my last compositions and some of the other Ladies. Mrs Hale was there - but I did not have an opportunity to speak with her.

Mrs Hale is at Chester I think - Kate will return to G— next Spring, but do not know as she thinks of it. Miss Gilman is a good lady but I could not love her as I did Mrs Hale.

Frank Hale is at G— (if I am not mistaken) and boards at Mr Simmys. Should you not like to see him — I Should be happy to know if you have received any thing from him —

Mr Hill, Swain Badger Hayes Adams and some others were at the examination — do you not think it sad to leave them there. I have [illegible] nothing from Mr Berry for a long time. Mr Roberts is teaching the village School and boards at Mr Wileys, and Mr Grady boards there. Mr Brown from Cuba has been very sick he was considered dangerous for a number of weeks, but is now able to be out. This is all I know of the Spring Students or those you are acquainted with

Miss Gilman had a female prayer meeting constantly — it was very well attended most of the time. There were more than young ladies there I have ever known — Seldom one refused to take a part with us. My room- mates were not pious, I felt as though a great-

N. Bainstead
Mr. Daniel B 1844

5

Miss Caroline M. B. Putnam
Danvers
Mass

Augusta North Barnstead N.H.
Jan. 12 1849
Dunstables

Barnstead, Jan 11th, 1849.

My dearest Antoinett

It is a lovely evening – all nature seems dressed in the richest garb. Each little star shines with unusual brightness, and Orion looks down and seems to boast of his beauty but enough of this last – you may think me rather sentimental.

I reached home safely Friday eve – had as pleasant ride as could be expected, It snowed all of the time – when I reached home I was nearly covered, I had rather a lonesome time at Concord – saw no one that I knew but Emilie's father.

Cold winter has indeed come. Last night it was very cold I hardly dared to venture out-door. Methinks I can now see Nettie busily engaged with her needle and now and then giving a few words to the passing conversation.

Would that I could be with you to night and hear you sing and play on the seraphine, but why do I wish, it is but a vain thing.
I have thought quite often of the singing school that we must go and the laughing fit of Mr Kimball has he made any remarks about E——— since we were there that you have heard of. I think much about attending school this spring and having you for a roommate may I not be disappointed. Will you not go with me if your mothers health will admit of it. I should like for you to select some school that will be in accordance with your mind and feelings. I have not made any choice. I fear that I shall not go unless some old schoolmate goes with me, for I dislike to be entirely among strangers. I suppose we cannot hope for Emilie to attend school as she has been from home much of late, it seems right that she should know something about home affairs. In ones education household affairs should be included perhaps it is not needed so much now as it might be in after days then many are lead to regret that they had not gained it. I guess you will think that I am becoming domestic.
Another year has swiftly fled and with its flight another is ushered in does this not call loudly upon us to be more active in

the cause of christ- often lift our voices in
prayer to him who is ever ready to hear.
Speaking of prayer. I think we should often
very often open our hearts in prayer. if it is
unheard by other it will be heard by God. Yes
if our thoughts are given up in prayer he will
know it. I wish that Emilie would become
a christian. I fear that one things keeps her
from giving herself up as a christian, it is
that she is entirely surrounded by a Methodist
society with she does not like and would not
feel to unite with them. I gathered this from
a few words she said to me when I was
talking with her.
Lizzie seemed more cheerful than ever
I expected to see her - does it seem that
we have all been together once more. to
me it appears almost like a dream.
Suppose ere this Emilie has committed herself
to Limitage - if so may happiness attend her
I enjoyed myself so well when at your home
& Lizzie's that I shall want to visit you
again - I hope you will visit me. When you
see Lizzie give much love to her for me and
tell her to write for I find she owes me a letter
I must close this poor letter would that it
was better I feel its imperfections deeply and
almost think of throwing it into the fire
Write me very soon will you not. Give much
love to your family and take a great deal to
your own dear self. I'll say to you a kind good
night.

I remain true, daughter.

North Barnstead,
N. H. Jany 12

5

Answered
Jan 26.

Miss Antoinett Putnam
Dunbarton
N. H.

Augusta North Barnstead N.H.
April 11. 1848

Lockport Ill

North Barnstead Apr 11 1848

My dear sister Nellie

Your kind good spirited letter reached me last Saturday eve. I hasten to answer it lest you may have occation to call me a negligent correspondent. Since your last letter reached me how have been called far from thy native home and dear friends to fulfill that station (a missionary) which you have so long wished for many changes has come since we parted at G— You have gone to the western land, and our dear Abby is gone forever gone never again will her kind voice echo forth the love she bore for us never again shall we receive communications from her pen guided by the hand of kindness. Those letters she has written are dear remembrances of her. Dear Lizzie has sustained a great loss not only has a beloved sister been called away but a Mother has gone from this earth. I have received two letters from

Lizzie since their deaths she seemed more reconciled than when she first wrote me. in her last letter she seemed to have given them up thinking that God had a higher claim for them. I answered her letter in due season, and do offered every soothing thought to heal the wound that might ease her wounded spirits but the Lord will never forget her friends. may she think that God has kindly called upon her to repent and become a christian. Almost three years has passed since my sisters I saw the lifeless remains laid in the silent tomb. yet I have not forgotten that good sister her death is as fresh in my memory as if it were but yesterday. I often wish that I might at twilight go to Sugar Grove and refresh my drooping spirits. but that privelege I cannot enjoy. how poor body rests for home here

"How much at rest the subject of religion is none seem willing to search for Gold. all are striving to lay up earthly treasures. would that a revival might spread widely over this sinful world.

Your dear Emilie is in Danville yet. she likes very much. I really wish that I could tell you much about Gainesville people but I know but little about them. I have not attended school this winter last spring and do not think I shall ever go there again to school. my last term was a very unpleasant one many little things occur to trouble one. You wish to know how I have spent my time at

home for a year past- have not studied much of late. I am assisting in the household affairs such knitting & sewing - making ready to go to school next autumn. I have not decided where I shall attend school. Brothers family that has been with us have gone to housekeeping and Mother & I feel more lonely - we miss their dear little Frances she is a pleasant childs almost two years old. She can say "aunt Lesley" she knows the names of my sister Brother Horace is at Hanover - he spent the winter at home - we enjoyed it very much while he was at home we went to visit Mr Willey's family in Bethlehem since then Mary Mitchell has been and spent two nights with me we had a fine time, talked over every thing that happened in that Springfield town. Mary Underhill is at Mr Willeys yet they will remain in Boston for the present Ben is the same as he used to be, I cannot see one bit of change in him. There is a certain something in him that I do not like I do not know why it is. What a funny little Lina he used to be for you did he not? do remember that night he took you from me so unceremoniously how I felt. Mr Brenner is at Hanover I suppose. Where do you think Miss Cairns is I have not heard from her this long time she was a strange Girl was she not. Oh! dear it is getting late and I have not written all that I want to, my poor hands will hardly hold my head my eyes will hardly look after for me to see good night

Another pleasant morning has come. Spring has made its brighter appearance & the gloom of winter is gone. Time is indeed flitting - how fast the months have passed away since that Spring Term when we were all so pleasantly & happily situated. Those little walks we used to take in the morning all the happiness - have now & then some little unthinking thing (such as the case) intruded itself to trouble us.

Where do you suppose Mr Berry is. The last that I heard from him he was agent in some of the Southern states. he has as many minds as the wind has ways you do not know where to find him. I have since heard that he was in Yale college - but it must have been a mistake. Because I do not know where he is. I saw Lady Clarke last spring at Edwardston, but do not know where he is now. Mr Caudy is in G——. I suppose - used to see him quite often. I should like to see you very much - how I should like to be a school mate with you again. When shall you again return to your native lands.

I really have written you so much haste that I do not know as you will be able to read it - I see that my sheet is nearly filled and what have I written nothing hardly worth your spending your precious time to read. I shall expect to receive another letter from you ere long. May you be happy and see that good comes from your every trial & labours is the earnest of your friend angelia turner

Augusta Me. Barnstead N. H.
March 12 1849

Dunbarton

Dear Sister. I do not know when I have received a letter with more pleasure than I did yours of the 4th inst. but enough of this. I have such a multiplicity of matters thronging my brain that I scarcely know where to begin. I am glad you have a school and that you are pleased with it. I have written Mr. Kittredge to sell the house and lot if he can get a chance. If not I shall be glad to have you rent it. I will write Mr. Kittredge by the next mail. I am sorry to hear that Mr. Kittredge is unwell. I suppose he is taking medicine. If so I would recommend Thacher's Bitters. They are very good for a disordered liver. I am sorry to hear that Mr. Kittredge is unwell. I suppose he is taking medicine. If so I would recommend Thacher's Bitters. They are very good for a disordered liver.

Barnstead, March 10th 1849.

Dear Sister Harriet. I have delayed answering your very good and interesting epistle, but hope when an apology is made you will pardon such protracted negligence. Time has indeed passed swiftly since yours was received.

Brother Horace was at home one week, and then my time was spent with and for him, the next week sickness and death was in our neighborhood, and the next my mother was sick with the erysipelas in her face, which she has but now recovered from, for nearly one week the whole of the household affairs fell upon me. Such an apology is sufficient. I trust to ensure me of Nellie's forgiveness.

Since I last wrote you every thing has passed as pleasantly with me as usual no exception

sorrow has gained admittance to my heart to mar the sweet happiness which would ever remain there if not interrupted, yet now and then a shade will pass over my spirits — it is thoughts of my only departed sister. None can know how deeply to feel the loss of one, save those who have followed a sister to her last and final home. Four long years has passed since my sister died, but she is not forgotten by me, many and fresh are the sweet & hallowed remembrances of her — its all right that she should be thus early called from earth — her heavenly father had a higher claim for her; but why do I weary you by writing of one you know not.

By my long delay you may think that I have given up the idea of attending school this spring. I have been so much engaged of late that I have hardly thought of it and now it is so late I shall not go. You spoke of the Frembrake school, from what I have learned — should think it might be a good school, but think it is quite uncertain about going there myself.

You may have learned how very suddenly Emilie made up her mind to go

to Northfield seminary – when she was almost there or at least almost started she changed her mind, and I suppose she is still at home. E wrote me and was anxious for me to go with her – before I had an opportunity to answer her letter, another came saying she was not going. I had not the "Northfield fever" bad enough to be at all disappointed.

Such are the religious sentiments of the institution that I think I should not like.

I suppose Lizzie is once more at Danville performing her arduous and responsable tasks. I am hoping she will visit me the coming summer as she almost promised to do. Will you not come too. How I wish you were here with me to night – we would enjoy ourselves finly.

I cannot refrain from going back in imagination's eye to the pleasures and sorrows of that Springtime when we were all united so closely in one tie that one heart could not be touched without the others shared its griefs and joys.

How many pleasant walks & talks we enjoyed those will be ours no more – one of our number is gone. Yes Abby so dearly beloved by us all – has bade farewell to friends and this sinful world, and we hope she has gained admittance to the bright and

and happy mansions prepared for the righteous alone. I should think Lizzie would like to speak of Abby oftener than she does. I believe she spoke of her only once while I was there.

A few words might interest you about Gatmaptan people and affairs and few they must be for I have but little knowledge of either.

Mr Wm Swain is going to be there as an assistant teacher — also Mrs Hall is there. If she may wish to know how and what I have for amusement there in quiet Barnstable I will say a little of almost everything. Brother Horace gave me a book of Mrs Hemans poems which I am very much interested in and I have access to a library, which has many good and interesting works. Among them is the "Life and campaigns of Napoleon," which I am now reading. I think such works are far more beneficial to the mind than novels and stories which tend rather to corrupt and weaken.

A few days since a person made me a call and by way of conversation, wished to know if I "read novels and stories". I said "I seldom do" then said — "I have a interesting story and if you will from (miss to read I will send it to you" I replied "if you think it worth reading I can (not will) read it". Such was the cold reply that I think (I do not forget first)

Saddleback, May 24th, 1849.

You know not how happy, very happy I was to receive your very exelent letter. it did not find rest with your other sweet tokens of friendship until I read it over and over again.

How sweet and hallowed is the thought that there is some true friendship in this world of ours. But few are those into whom we can look most tenderly and sincerely and open to them our hearts sorrows and joys. Nettie sometimes I think that we are placed here somewhat alike. You have no sister neither have I, (once you said thought) and I had a much loved sister but she has fled from earth, and is now in sweet communion with the saints above) Let us then be sisters truly. I ask from you the

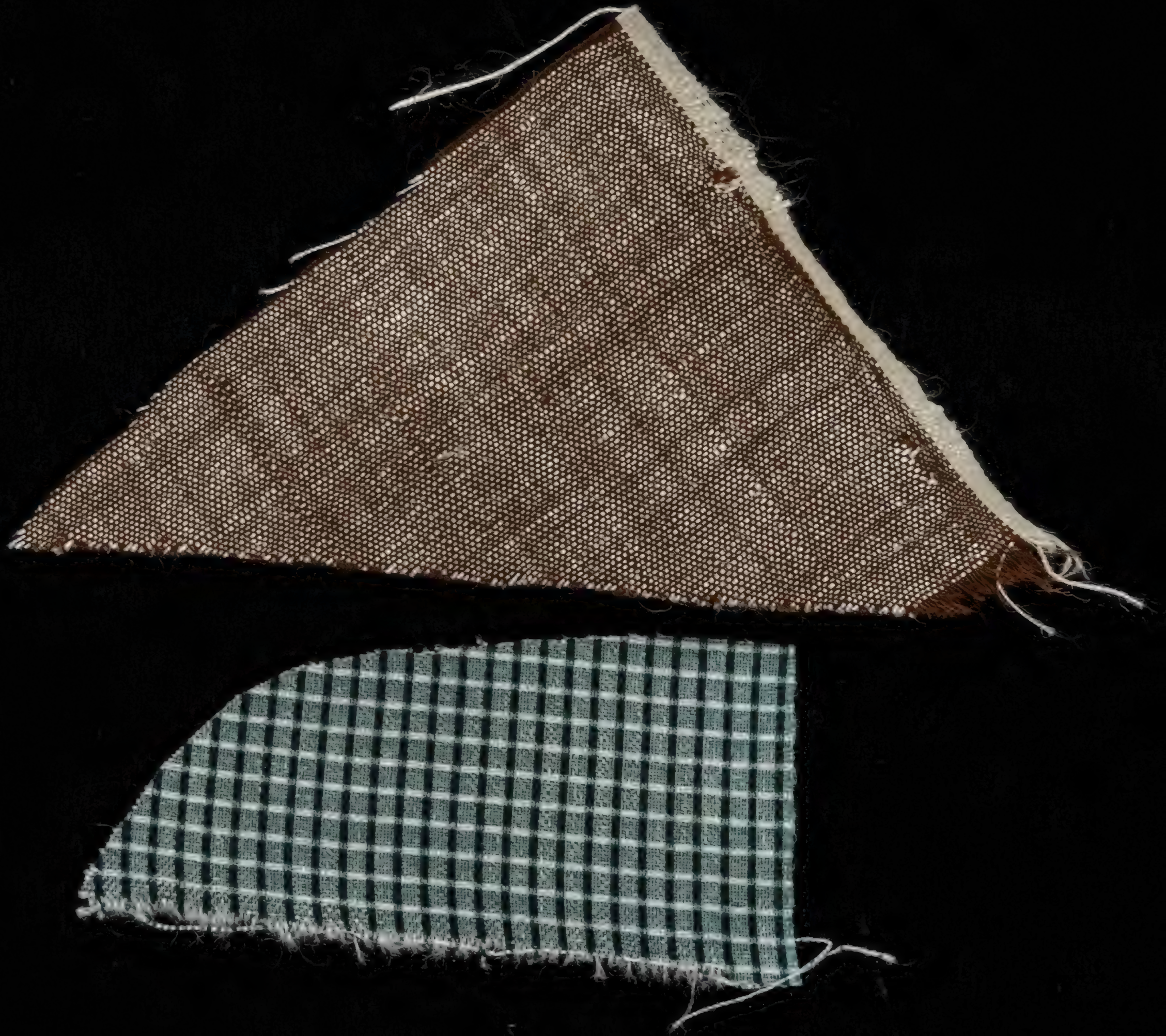
The Lutheran Observer
Hagerstown
Md.

one of such and will return it to you as
far as is in my power.
We are place in a beautiful world. all nature
is decked in Springs brightest- purest- garb.
we live on day after day and admire all
this beauty and grandure, little thinking that
they were made by the hand of God. Carelessly
we while time away and do but very little
for him who has bestowed so many blessings
upon us, Shall we sleep on so sluginsly
or shall awake from our sleep and do
something that may impress the cause of
Christ.
With us all seems cold and indiferent- as
far as the subject of religion is concerned
would to God that we might see many anxious
to become christians. Oh; that I could be the
means of some conversions.
It is evening every thing is hushed to rest- and
I seated in my own chamber addressing a
few scrol off a letter to my distant friend
What shall I write then Pittie dear that
will give you pleasure to read- nothing
better than to tell you I am enjoying
the same share of happiness as when we
were together, I am looking forward and
hoping we shall be such mates again.
I spoke to Brother Horace about what you

wrote me about the school you thought of attending this autumn. He says it is "grand" school. I think he will favor my plan if I should decide to go and I half think that I shall if you should. You can ascertain all about the school and when the term commences and its length and write me. and if every thing should meet with our approbation and that of our friends. I will write Horace as he will have an opportunity of seeing Mr Russel at Hanover. It is rather late and I believe I am rather dull I will say to you "a kinde good night".

May 29th. Time has passed swiftly since I commenced this letter. I went to the examination at Gilmanton - it was week last Friday - all passed off well and had a pleasant time. The old birth house is being all done over new and very large by Dr Wright. It does not look much as it did when we were all there so happy together. By the way - Eliza L. Hale was married (at Mr Jennings) a week to night; to a Rev Mr Armsby of Chester. He was a widower and had one child about three years old. Franklin was at J but I did not see him. He was gone about two years and his friends did not know where he was, but I believe he was in Boston.

You inquire after my father's health - it is much better than it was in the winter but his old cough is still remains and I fear it never will. I do not feel as conscious about him as I did in the winter



Augusta N.H. Farmstead N. H.
May 5 1849

Amherst N. H.

5 —

Mrs Antoinette D. Parkman
Amherst
New Hampshire.

Rev. Mr. Burnstead
with Mrs. Mont 30
May 31

Augusta Portsmouth N.H.
July 11 1849
Amherst N.H.

Brunswick July 11th 1849.

Your letter dearest Antoinette reached me wednesday last. I hardly dare to think we shall be roommates against it is very pleasant to think that there is a likelihood that we may. I asked Father about it and suppose he intends that I shall attend. I dont know speake of the expences - think that they are rather high. I should rather board in a private family than in the building I should think we might get boarded at - Mrs Coo for we are. The situation is some high but I suppose the advantages are good Your father will write for you Mrs Coo and can also engage mine with yours when Brother Charles comes home which will be the 27 or 28th he can also write Mr Russell if you think best and nothing should happen to prevent my going I should anything disappoint I shall write you immediately Charles will be able to go with me to Amherst I am hoping I shall visit Emilie our plan. Now write me soon as you get this and tell me if what I have written meets with your approbation. in much haste Good night

In love Augusta Webster.

No. Barnstead
July 11

5

Miss Antoinette D. Putnam,
Amherst,
N. H.

Augusta No 15 Barnstead N.H.
Aug. 15 1849
Dear Sister

Barnstead, Aug 7th, 1849.

My own dear Antoinette

Night has come, all is hushed to rest and I have taken my pen to talk awhile with my dear friend. You are now enjoying the sweets of home; kind friends surround you and with all this does not thy own heart leap with joy and happyness, or does thoughts of your "airy Castle" which has been ~~destroyed~~ so rudely pulled by ~~rudeness~~ to earth distract them.
I cannot say but what I was very disappointed on receiving your last letter. I had built my hopes high for the coming autumn, thinking nothing would be ours but happiness and that we should once more be companions.
I had fully decided and wrote Emilie to be here and add another two our number. She thought it quite impossible to go, but congratulated me in my expected happiness. My father & mother

were at Emilie's home week before last, also attended "Commencement." Emilie accompanied them. I have not yet informed E— of my disappointment I shall soon,

When I received your letter I came to the conclusion that I should not feel bad until I had heard from E , and when that word came you can not imagined my feelings. They were such as could not be relieved only by a long cry which after awhile I began to think that just as it was for the best.

What are these disappointments to many which we are called to meet with certainly they are as nothing.

19th Thinking you may feel somewhat solicitous to know when I have my disappointment I will not delay longer to finish this.

You wish me to visit you during your vacation but it will not be convenient for me to, Should I have an opportunity to visit at all it would be nothing more than right for me to visit my other acquaintances, It was only last winter that I visited you & Lizzie but you have not returned my visit.

As far as my future plan is concerned I am quite at a stand what to write you I have almost come to the conclusion

to say but little about it, but think I shall remain at home this autumn and journey home the Anna closes at Gilmanton next Wednesday the 15th, think I shall not attend.
Tamarack shall take a little trip to Pittsfield to get a dress which is making there - would send you a bit if I had any of it.
I do not know what is the matter with me to night, I cannot get out one thing that can in the least interest you. I can give no other reason than that our future plan which was to attend us so much pleasure has been crushed to earth.
I sometimes wish that I was situated that I might roam and that enjoy [illegible]ly of the Young. You must write me as soon as you get this and pardon me Nettie dearest for not writing more, my pen almost refuses to perform it's duty I wish you a good night hoping you will ever remember your friend at the throne of grace.

I remain the same
Augusta Webster.

No Barnstead
N. H. Aug 15

5

Miss Antoinette B. Putnam.
Dunbarton.
N. Hamp

Augusta A. B. Barnstead N. H.

Nov. 28 1849

Dear Sister Lillie dearest Ella is done mean filled your a letter she sent yet. I do now how am I fill this, what I have written is not very interesting and certainly the fourth must be less so.

The term a G—— closed the Tuesday before Thanks—giving the number of students averaged 150.

I did not attend the examination and exhibition as it was the day after I returned home, besides I had no way of going—as brother Horace has not yet returned home we have been looking for him all this morning.

The people here have displayed exhibition enough to establish a lyceum, which is to be a one of the lectures one half of the time. I attended one evening and think I shall again next week. The subject last discussed was "If the discovery of gold in California would not prove a national calamity"

These lyceums reminds me of old times when we were all at Gilmanton—some sad thoughts are presented to me.

I have learned that the school a seminary has flourished finely this autumn. How happy I should have been if we could have been there. But I suppose our disappointment was for the best. Think you we shall can be determined again. I am quite disappointed to night in not having a letter from Emilie. I have not heard from her for a long time and cannot think why it is she is so long silent. Hope it will be a very pleasant day to-morrow as I wish very much to attend church. I shall have to go three miles but I had rather do this to remain at home and not attend meeting.

to answer yours. While you are reading this I would have you know that it is written in a writing school. Here I am in the midst of a large school each one is busy with their writing and pening I stand back to enact like a spectator. I have taken paper and pen with me to commune awhile with my far distant friend Nettie. Would that you were here with me for I am enjoying myself finely. I am spending the autumn quite pleasantly returned from my journey more than a week since - had a pleasant time - was gone about two weeks and half. I was at Archibald's nearly a week. They are all well and want to see

very much. Mr & Mrs Willey are just the same as they used to be. Edson can't be more at Dan Dan is just a wide awake as ever perhaps a little more sedate. Mary Underhill is attending school in Portland - She is with Mrs Willey's friends.
I had a pleasant visit at Mr Willey's.
While at Farmington I attended seven meetings one evening I attended a lecture on matrimony which was decidedly interesting and should be heard by every one. You may think it funny that I should listen to such a subject - it was truly modest and I think much might be gained were it listened to rightly.
If you may wish to know where and how I spent Thanksgiving I will tell you all about it.
I attended church in the forenoon and dined at Brother Smiths - spent the evening at home reading. I am now reading "Philosophy of the future states" in Dicks. I say with you who can read but to be better. Also many how many read for for the present moment cherishing little for their future good and improvement.
The bright silvery moon is shedding its mild and gentle rays upon all nature. Each little star is performing its allotted duties I should think it was most time for the school to close I believe I shall not write much more The teacher has come and I must be ready like

to see my writing a number of times. the last time I told him it was not finished and I could not. once he was looking at this before I knew it but think he is not much the wiser. You cannot think what a noise there is here, but you can easily imagine when I tell you there are nearly thirty persons all ages but married and really there are one or two men and a widower I do as I just glance my eye over the room. There is one old lady sitting up there looking a queer object anything you ever see – he has taken it upon him to make a post for the rest. "a kind good night"

26th. It is Saturday eve, and raining a pleasant one. I have just been into Brothers. I cannot fail to tell you that I am made Aunt again by another little babe being added to Brothers family it is a daughter again – most fine creatures also. I believe they have given it one name, which is Annette. I was half a mind to ask them to add "Loie" but feared they would not wish to and that my friends. Antoinette would not think it any honor at all to have such a little one bear her name.

Little Frances is out and side awhile, and talks much about the baby. She was about when I went in to night but don't she wanted to see me and must get up. She begged and begged me "Tit" I began to but somehow I dare not for the [illegible] of my neck

Augusta Addr. Barnstead N. H.

Nov. 28 1849

You say Pittie dearest that I have never filled your a Letter sheet yet. And now how can I fill this, what I have written is not very interesting and certainly the forth must be less so.

The town a G—— elected the Tuesday before Thanksgiving the number of students averaged 150.

I did not attend the examination and exhibition as it was the day after I returned home, besides I had no way of going as brother Horace has not yet returned home we have been looking for him all this morning.

The people here have displayed considerable enough to establish a Lyceum, which is to be a one of what hous one half of the time. I attended one evening and think I shall again next week. The subject last discussed was "If the discovery of gold in California would not prove a national calamity"

These lyceums remind me of old times when we used all at Gilmanton some sad thoughts are presented to me.

I have learned that the school a Hancock has flourished finely this autumn. How happy I should have been if we could have been there but I suppos our disappointment was for the best. Think you we shall can be school mates again. I am quite disappointed to night in not having a letter from Emilie. I have heard from her for a long time and cannot think why it is she is so long silent. Hope it will be a very pleasant day tomorrow as I wish very much to attend church. I shall have to go three miles but I had rather do this to remain at home and not attend meeting.

Augusta North Barnstead N. H.

Oct. 16 1849

to Stonington Ct.

Barnstead, Oct 8th 1849.

My dearest Antoinette

I find myself more in debt to my correspondence now than I have for a long time and as yours was received first I will endeavor to answer it, but I fear it will not kindly bear to meet thy criticising gaze.

Since my return from L I — my time have been more occupied than usual. You wish a description of my journey — You shall have it but I assure you it came from a rough hand and unpolished style Nellie knows what good miserable treats my letters always are and she will not be disappointed in the least on receiving this.

Brother Horace accompanied me to Norwich and from there I was protector for myself my conveyances were by cars, Stages, and at last a private carriage which may be found at the door of Emilies home shaking her cordially by the hand. My visit there was entertaining to us both.

I was there a week and half—had a delightful and exstatic time. I had to be my own protector home, which was quite a wonder for me. Yet it has not discouraged one in the least—as I think of taking another start trip down. I shall go in the course of two or three weeks to visit my relatives in Kingston this state—shall be absent two or three weeks.

I am practising myself much happiness, in the sweet anticapation that I shall have a visit from your dear self and one beloved Sophie. Say nothing Sophie to blast the plan which your dear made to visit me after your School closes. Nellie do not be one bit sparing of your visit; let it be a good long one. When I was at your home last winter I should stayed longer but it was all of the spare time I had then. I am hoping Brother H will be at home when you come as he returns a few days before our Thanksgiving which is the 15th or 16th of December. We will laugh and talk and bring to mind those past events which are so sacred to us.

E. Hill is dead, another has bid farewell to it is frail world of ours and entered the eternal world, yet we live on unconcernedly and almost unmindful that there is a God. I have of late thought more of the beautiful works of him who is the master of all things. When he takes from us kind friends

and acquaintances ~~[illegible]~~, it is to remind us of our ingratitude to him. I find much enjoyment in reading the bible which I have commenced to read in course.

You wish to know what I'm reading. I have commenced "Dickens works" which I am quite interested in. Some would lay it aside thinking it a dry work and resort to our newspapers and novels which are but idle storys of love and the like. I would not have your think me set and decided on this subject although my life may be a single one. I am willing that those who wish should read fictitious works. many of them are but mere "love-maladies"

It is a shady eve, would that some good friend were here to go out with me and trace the beautiful stars. I had a letter from Lizzie a few days since she spoke of your contemplated visit here.

The school at Gilmanton is flourishing well, the number of students is 140. I do think my letter is uninteresting and lest you may read over it. I will write no more. write soon. will you ask Mary Jefferies remember you is the sincere wish of your friend

Augusta.

No. Barnstead N.H. 5
Oct. 10

Miss Antoinett B. Putnam,
Goffstown,
N. Hamp.

Brantford, Thursday
evening, Feb 26th 1850.

Hastly Nettie Sadler
myself to write to night. Horace
came from Mount-Vernon last
week and an acquaintance of
yours sent a note by him to you
expecting you were true as you
mentioned to her in a letter
that you thought of visiting here
I enclose the note with mine
in letter from Lizzie received me
last week saying she was going

Daniel and should not
visit me. I am much oblidge
to her for keeping me waiting
for a letter which was to decide
when she would be here and
then to disappoint me in not
coming. I do not feel myself
alone disappointed but you to
have been. She says she will
come next Summer but I do
not think she will. Perhaps it
would have been better if she
had decided sooner. Then you
could have had a visit your

pleasure and not- been bound
to her at- all. Do not- think Nettie
e that- I attach any blame to you
for I certainly do not. I do think
d it- is our duty to look to
e- any disappointments- I will say
yes the same thought- now that-
I did in my last. For you to come
and visit- me and let- Le- come
ll return the pleases or is ready.
e Brother Horace leaves home to-
-morrow morning for Cambridge
e where he will stop twenty weeks
longer than he has ever been
from home at- one time.

Had another letter from Emilie
two or three weeks since.
She seems very happy in her
new life - and it is the sincere
wish of her friends Augusta.
that she may ever be so
Two Sabbaths before the date of her
letter she said that our Co.
partook of the Holy communion
for the first time Eighty in
the number. Wanted that we
might hear of many that are
calling on God for forgiveness
With us very little said upon
the subject of religion. Time
admonishes me to hasten my note
to a close - but it is with reluct-
ance that I stop writing. I feel
more in the mood of writing
to night than usual. Good
night Nettie may I not hear
from you dear Remember me
to your family.

Much Love. Augusta

[illegible] a member. That wish will [illegible]
[illegible] and I expect to attend
the next term, commencing one week
from next Monday. I should be
much pleased if I should meet
you and your friend there. Who
can't you come? We have
for board one dollar and seventy
five cents a week including fuel,
lights, and washing. In the boarding
house. I wish I might have the
pleasure of [illegible] you. I do
not see you there. I wish to hear
from you, how you have been engaged
&c. I regretted very much that I could
not have enjoyed more at your Society
last summer. I have been reading
nearly the whole time since I saw
you. I have had very pleasant schools.
Mr. Webster has kindly offered to
[illegible] for me, I [illegible]

Augusta Co. Barnstead N.H.

Feb. 26. 1850

Dunbarton

Augusta Port Gamblead N. H.
Feb. 13 1850
Lunenburg

No Barnstead Feb 12th 1850

With much pleasure dearest Nellie I improve this opportunity in answer to your very kind interesting epistle. I have delayed longer than I should have done had it not been that I was hoping to receive one from Lizzie as you said she was going to write soon but her soon has not come and it is a mystery that I cannot see through why she is always so long silent after she receives a letter from me "Her last did not come until I wrote twice." Nellie may wish to know what her friend Augusta is doing at the present time. I will answer that my time is spent in divers ways now I am engaged in making shirts for Brother Horace he is coming home next week and will stop with us about a week. You will "doubtless" excuse me this time if I do not write so long as usual.
What shall I say about the visit which you have so long promised me have you given it all up. I have almost decided that you are not

coming. I have given up seeing Lizzie and should be disappointed to see her but I should be very happy to see dear Nellie I want you to come very much and why will you not if it cannot will not be any excuse why you do not you can come now and she will perhaps come some future time. You can come from Concord to Barnstable on Tuesday Thursday & Saturday in the afternoon by stage and every day from Concord to Pittsfield. The stage has come to the Centre Barnstable every day until lately but not find it profitable in the winter season they it comes but three times in the week from the centre line it is three and half miles to Pittsfield nine. so can tell me when you will come and I will meet you a either place or you can get a conveyance here if should decide to come immediately and have time for a letter to reach me. I should be happy very happy for you to come when Horace is at home he will be at home next week. I shall look for you every day after I think this letter has reached you. I had a letter from our dear Emilie at the same time that yours came. I received the welcome intelligence of her new life with heartfelt thanksgivings to God that he had so long kept her and spared her life so long. When I received her letter I was in deed between meetings and tears ambition came. I pray with you may she do much good and be a detailed

christian. I feel that prayers have been answered many times have I remembered her at the throne of grace and asked god to look down in tender and compassionate mercy upon her and touch her young heart sometimes I feel myself unworthy to call on the name of God but when such are my feelings I enter my closet and offer up a prayer to him who is ever ready to hear and answer are such feelings ever yours.

It is now quite late and I must hasten. have I written anything which will interest you in the least but accept it and excuse all errors for they are many. I am so elated with the thought that I may see you that I cannot write.

Ever the Same

Augusta C. Webster

This letter is decidedly unsentimental as you will see as I tore and dashed it in seating but some time I will inclose it in a wrapper

Miss Antoinette B. Putnam.
Dunbarton
New Hampshire.

Augusta North Barnstead N. H.

April 17 1850

Geo. Stowe

[illegible] April 11

1 50

Ever dear Antoinette

I ought to have a most welcome and interesting epistle by this but previous to its having gained mine and I have dragged further back to work.

We are having a second winter to day it is very cold apple tree would blossom a hold no ice ah any time last month and hoping that Spring will come soon but it will not explain it is ordered by the wise and kind hand of our heavenly father. It is a pleasing employment at an [illegible] to look back and trace the kind dealings of

"Ere we pass this present point there was in the little village of Emmanuel [illegible] pious and unintentional happiness was mine [illegible] You and I [illegible] that months and the thought suggests itself where are the [illegible] Some also [illegible] gone never to return. it is a sad thought. But these little [illegible] are nothing when compared to the

in another world. may we able rule over that holy city could be furnished entire that blessed mansion which is promised us by God.
God is Love dear mind does these words express in all his works we see with care he has made all, every tree shrub and blade of grass are the work of his hands. We are blessed with friends to guide us in life and to sympathise with us. Even those we love may be taken from our embrace when God sees best in mission with our one. The pang of separation we may feel keenly and the stroke almost to much to bear but we ask why is it. that we are left, why is the hundredth link severed, if we have a hope in God we can say it is right= and for our good Emilie visited me a short time since. She is well and seems as happy in her new life as ever.
I have not heard one word from Leyzie since you were here. I visited her the next week after you were here.
Sometimes I think I should be very lonely were it not that now and then I do letter from Nettie and Emilie. You are both very prompt= more so than any of my other

Lotte

correspondence. If you will permit such to close a correspondence which has afforded me much happiness. It is four years since our acquaintance commenced and may it never be clouded, in whatever station in life we are placed let us still be found bound together by the ties of love and friendship.

Emilie wrote me that she thought of visiting Concord and Bonstill in June. If it is convenient for us to visit you I for one shall certainly enjoy it.

When Spring comes I shall visit Intervale I have not been there for almost a year. I cannot realize that you have visited us so long ago since. I shall ever look back upon that short visit with pleasure. You asked your letter if more company came to fill your places -- believe we were minus of company for a few days. my pretty rug as you call it is still unfinished. but I think I shall have time to complete it soon.

How fits the jacket you rode first I like it very much and intend to quilt unwilling to part with it, and it keeps me so nice and warm too. I have had a great

many congratulations on its travels. You must
admit you have like the lady remarked
that if she lost it she might have added
water for it. She was very much smitten
with it.

I am engaged about the same as when you
were here. I am reading "Gibbon's decline
and fall of the roman empire" as a history
& like it very much.

I was hard surprised on receiving your card
that it was mailed at G — I hope you
are having a pleasant detail and we
hope shall not again be detailed as
a faint hope is rising within my bosom
that I shall again be a student but I
dare not dwell it stands.

may I not have one of your good letters
ere long can remember your absent friend
at that throne grace, with much love and
many good wishes from your friend,

Augusta Wilcox.

Augusta North Barnstead N.H.
June 5 1850
Dunbarton

Barnstead June 1st 1850.

My ever dear Nettie.

It is with pleasure that I improve these leisure moments in answer to your very eplent epistle. I return many, many thanks to you for being so very prompt to answer my poor letter which are not hardly worth your reading. Believe dearest Antoinett that they are written by one who holds you dear to her heart. How very sweet is "Friendships kiss. When we are alone we can commune with distant friends by the means which have been given us. Let us ever be what we now are true friends and even more sisters. In whatever situation the future may place us, we will still continue our correspondence.

It has been very rainy this week and cold the farmers have almost complained lest they should not have a fruitful season, but we have the promise of "seed time and harvest." Yesterday and to day has been very pleasant. Almost five years has passed since my beloved sister died, quickly very quickly has

it passed. Once I could address one as Sister but that voice no longer returns the salutation, it is now hushed in death and her lifeless form lies mouldering in the silent tomb. Perhaps you may think it strange that I should mourn for one, who so long since left us, but she still lives in my memory and ever will. I love to speak or write about her, however sad it may make me feel.

The month of June has ever been the saddest of the year, but I love to let my thoughts linger with the dead. I have hope that my Sister is happy now in heaven, and with such hope could I again wish her in this sinful world, or certainly not. God took a stronger claime than earthly friends, "he gave but to take again."

You say you hope that Emilie and I will visit you this summer, I am sorry to tell you that you are again the child of disappointment. Emilie was called quite unexpectedly to Exeter a few weeks since, to visit an Uncle of hers who was at that time dangerously sick. I had a letter from her, dated May 13th, saying that her Uncle had so far recovered that he thought he should be able to accompany her to Sandaff in two or three weeks, and she should not be able to visit any of her

friends, but must go directly home and make her contemplated visit at some future time." to feel disappointed at not seeing Emilie but suppose it is all right.

I do not even dare to hope that I may see Lizzie here this summer. I have not had one word from her since she has been in Louisville and do not know why she is so very negligent in writing to me.

The Freedwill Baptist had their quarterly meeting at our meeting house last week, it lasted two days and I attended all of the time, had a very good meeting.

My friends the Miss Watkins are now at home and I assure you I appreciate their company though I do not see them very often.

Sometimes I wish that my home had been in some pleasant village, so that I could enjoy more society and not spend my life so secluded from the world. I ought not to complain, but be content that Lizzie is in so pleasant a part of the world. How essential it is that we should have Christian friends and think that all is for the best.

I go to see my little nieces often. Grace says she shall go to school Monday. she is very much elated with the idea. One of the Miss Watkins will teach in our district and I shall be sure of an acquaintance to start with this summer.

you are if I have decided about attending Sabbath School. I have not. I wish very much to have a few more Sabbath days. If I do not attend Sabbath this autumn I think I shall not any more. If you could go I think I should not be long deciding. My friends have proposed for me to visit Charlestown in September. I have some relatives there & dear I have never been but if I can go to Sabbath, I would willingly relinquish the idea of visiting Saturday evening. I have attended church today Mr George preached two very excellent sermons. His texts in the forenoon was the words, "Grieve not the Spirit." This day is Mr Georgia birthday. He is 73 years old. He has long preached to us, but his health is now very poor and some think he is doing his last work.

We have a Sabbath School organized here and I have been chosen teacher of one class. There are four little girls about eleven I have often wished that I might do some good in Christ Holy cause and even now it seems that there is a field opened for me to work in. Pray for me that I may be a useful Sabbath School teacher. There is also a very interesting bible class connected with the School, and it is so arranged that the teachers can be pupils in bible class. The questions and reading books (for we have a library) are from the American Sunday School union.

I think of going to Gilmanton tomorrow or next day to visit my old friends and relatives my heart aches with pain but must wait you know might. Hoping you will write soon.

Ever the same Augusta.

Augusta
Since I addressed one
to Love and 6 may 4 more
to Love are as if I only wrote
Letters of mild Quality.
Love to the Same
Augusta.

N. Bamstead N.H.
July 31 1850
Dunstarus

P.S. Should by me not
receive a Reply to forward
I commence if so five weeks
I commence the first of
September. I will write
it so

North Bamstead, July 30th. 1850.

My own dear Antoinette

Seated in my own room, I have composed myself to the sweet employment of answering your very interesting and long letter. I do not think that the letter which I have about to write will half pay for your very expelent one. but such as it is will you not accept it.

It is so very warm to day that I have not hardly enigy enough to do any thing. Last night we had a delightful shower.

A questions suggest itself where is Nettie to day, in her schoolroom surrounded by little ones eager to grasp the sparklings gems from the fountain of knowledge. or like myself alone in some quiet room I do wish that you were with me. I think we could take much pleasure as heretofore. often do I think of your pleasant visit there and may I not have another sometime.

I have visited Gilmanton since I last wrote had a fine time. There is a change since we were there, few very few are there that we used call friends. What a change has taken place in

four years. Some who were dear to us by friendship
ties are gone to their long home, and others are
separated for from us by distance.
You like myself are a Sabbath School teacher, may
we be useful, may we not see those little ones
wonder from the track from God's holy word only the
subjects of divine grace. Sometimes I feel myself
unworthy to go before my class, and of two things
what shall I say to them to day that will
lead them to seek christ for their friends.
Much interest is manifested here in the Sabbath
School and I hope it will increase till we shall
have a revival of religion, it is needed very much
My hope in christ has been firmer and brighter for
the present year than usual, by are time have I
devoted to reading my bible and serious thought
and prayer. How sweet is prayer to a christian.
When all earthly friends forsake us we may go and
hold sweet converse with this friend.
I often wish that we were so situated that we
might talk of this important subject and raise
our voices in prayer to our heavenly
father, but wherever we are God has promised
to hear us. Will you not often breath a prayer
for your friend Augusta that she may be a devoted
christian and that her life may be one of use-
fulness.
Brother Horace come home and make home sweet and

one of my cousins daughter with him. The day they have gone to Gibmentino to visit our relations there. Brother Horace returns to Cambridge ~~next~~ the 20 September and wishes me to go to Charlestown with him. I have almost decided to do so, if I do shall be absent from home two weeks and perhaps six. Lizzie has not written me for so long time, when she last wrote she thought of visiting me this summer, but it is almost past and she has not come, perhaps she thinks of coming this autumn. Will you not please say to her when I have written above that she may not come when I am gone.

No tidings has come from Emilie for a time, she must be very much engaged or she would not be so very negligent.

To give words about little Annette may interest you. She is a fine baby and they say looks just like her aunt Augusta.

I have almost come to the conclusion that all of young ladies that wants to attend school when they, did are married and geting engaged with the exception of our little circle. I do not know but Lizzie and Emilie are thinking about it. So does not seem willing to admit any thing about himself and his C. What do you think makes one deny this subject when there is a tinging of truth to it. I believe I should not.

No. Barnstead
N.H. July 21

5

Miss Antoinette B. Putnam.
Dunbarton
New Hampshire.

Augusta Me Barnstead N.H.
Oct 22 1850
Barnstable

dear sis it ate is now in
afternoon I start:
I this do not write you
at times as I ought for I
write I shall not write
time this I am
Barnstable
six months I shall
I could give you
writing when I am

Yet I
you least at this
thus early and suddenly as Lebanon brother from
Can I one the assurance that your dear brother is now
with the redeemed in heaven - yes we, but not with-
-out hope and this hope enables you to look for beyond
this "exit of time" - where all is joy and happiness. The
cup is now quite full, for you to drink it's bitter dregs
but your part is "be still" and say not my will but
"thine will be done" The removal of our friends from
us is something that we cannot comprehend, but we
shall at the last day know all. When we see friends
stricken and die, it seems almost more than we can
bear, but if we think they are gone to be with christ and
the happy spirits which are singing around his throne, we
feel that our grief is lessened somewhat and that our
morning is turned to rejoicing. yet those loved ones
still live within our memory and years may pass
away. they are still there the same as in health and life
It is any doubt to think that we shall see them no more
or hear the sweet accents of love that often greeted us with

or see their faces beaming with Gladness for us.
Truly Nellie I can sympathize with. I too have tasted of affliction, not as brother but a sister has been taken from me. How hard, and painful is such familiar to me although she has been dead more than five years. Perhaps I have promised myself as much happiness as you have yourself in your dear Brothers company. We are taught by these saddening strokes to place our affections upon things above not on things below, and that they are only transitory and will pass away. We must have our lamps trimmed and burning for we know not at what hour the Son of man cometh. Is it not a warning to us that we do not live what we profess, that we do not live as devoted lives as we should do, and we do not spend enough of Gods holy time in his holy cause. I have felt for sometime past that I was for from being what I ought to be, and as I despair in the mercy of God I determined to live more as a christian should do, and spend more time in reading the bible and in prayer for those who are around me who have no thought for themselfs as it concerns their future state. Have you a little Sabbath school class or girls. They are and I thanked not have thought that he that a time being. Their Teacher must have encouragement. How much to me. I love to have the Sabbath come that I may do this and say something to them that may be the means of doing them some good. Often very often do I remember them at the throne of grace, that they may early consecrate their hearts to the Lord. I think there is much responsability resting upon a Sabbath school Teacher

I felt it a duty to do all that I could to sustain a
sustain a school as we have never had one here before.
My mother left for East Hampton last Friday to absent till
next Saturday, leaving me to take care while she is gone
Like housekeeping very well, have six in family besides
myself and I assure you it keeps me quite engaged all
of the time. I do not think or care much about it, as
I shall be some the wiser for it. I think young ladies
cannot learn the art of housekeeping to perfect, but how
ever learn the name domestic and think those
who have anything to do with it, are equally as curious
I have been my journey as I spoke of in my last letter
was absent more than four weeks. I had a very pleas-
time. Spent two weeks in Charleston with my cousins and
in fact I had so much to attract my attention that
I hardly knew how very fast time was flying. I vis-
-ited also in Salem, Roxbury, and E Hampton. While in
Charleston went to Boston quite often but was not very
much pleased with this noted city. I do not think
I should be willing to change my country home for
all its luxury. There is not in so place like that so
much time for sober thought as in a country home
like ours. I could not hardly bear the noise in Boston
when I had been out. I was very glad to get into so
quiet place as possible and there sit down and think
seriously. It seemed to me that the people were living
through the world as fast they could caring nothing
for the present only to be through with it. The many
flaws that I visited nothing struck me more of its beauty

and grandure than Mrs Ambrose did. It is one of the most delightful places I ever saw. a visit to this Lovely spot fills the mind with solemnity but for pure pleasure. Nothing to have Hands to make it beautiful and Lovely. Friends have spared nothing in erecting the splendid and costly monuments in memory of the dead. Flowers are growing over the grounds in rich profusion and many a tear is shedding the dead. but of how little importance are all of these costly beauties in comparison to the immortal souls of those whose lifeless remains rest there.

Last week was quite interested in reading the memoir of Mrs Judson a missionary. I wish but wish there were a few more like her. and then I myself was half so good and devotion christian. She lived and died for her master.

Your earnest invitation for me to visit you this autumn I believe cannot be accepted. I know that I should enjoy spending a few days with you while every thing is looking so gay Lovely but I have been from home so much of late I must now be content to remain at home for the present. Should I visit you at all it must be in cold winter again or not till another summer. I shall never forget the pleasant visit I had from you and your dear brother Henry. I wonder if some one (I think Emily) that he had become more interesting since I saw him last. How many things it was that made this pleasant Memorable as his first and last visit. I little thought when I bade him good bye that it was the last even now I can imagine I see him just as he looked when he was singing. I am glad you do not wish to banish every thought of him or not wish to speak of him as Lizzie does of her sister Abby is he ours any more since Heaven or mine. but the Lord has risen more evidently than you did your dear Henry or I think my dear Lizzie Thomas, that she should thus refrain from speaking of her. It is one of my greatest pleasures to talk and write about

Excuse my errors for I write very fast as you must by this time have discovered as I am so fond of writing to you.

Augusta

North Barnstead N.H.

Dec 23d 1850

Augusta

North Barnstead Dec 23d, 1850.

Your most opelent and welcome letter reached me at the time when I was thinking what had become of you and why you remained so long silent. It is very stormy to day, and the most severe snow storm we have had this winter. I can only keep myself warm by sitting my nose to a hot stove. Every thing is dressed in gloom but I am not sad, neither do I allow myself to be gloomy such days as this is. It gave me much joy to learn that you are a school girl once more, as you have long desired to be one. It would have added much to my store of happiness to have been Nellie's chum, but as I was not so to be, I will willingly submit to it. Hope, for the last year has grown rather dim with me as far as school days is concerned. Within a few weeks I have serious thought that I might be a few more school days. I wish you would decide to spend the Spring at Plymouth Normal institute and I think I could certainly be your roommate.

What happy days our school days are. Sometimes I think mine are the happiest ones I ever enjoyed though I have even now that I did not improve them as I should have done. I was so delinquent to regret

in Lady. Sarah for the fast will not bring it back to me again and I will not dwell longer on the reminiscence of misspent days.

I will answer to myself, how am spending my time that I am closely kept within my own quiet room like Lame by the retiring feelings which are ever predominant over me. I do not visit but very little or see much company.

Perhaps it will not be improper for me to give you a short discription of a party that I attended last Thursday eve. It was at one of our neighbours I went not knowing who or how many would be present and to my surprise found the number to be about forty. The exercises were dances, plays, and every thing of the kinds which tends to destroy both mind and character. I remained in the company 'till 10 Oclock and then left; for reasonce forbade me to stay any longer. One of my leaders of the company asked an intimate friend of mine who was absent from I liked or enjoyed myself "said she. Augusta said she never saw such works before, as she had never been in company with you before, and did not know how you did." I am sorry that the young people of the little city just town of Barnstead should thus throw away the time that our Heavenly Father has given them for Solier and Higher purposes.

The first day of January there will be a donation party at our ministers. The young people will get in

the evening and the morning during the day
I have never been present at only one of these
& wish very much to be there this year but as
Horace will not be at home, it will be uncertain
unless I depend upon the generosity of some one
to take me there. I like yourself am destitute
of a beau.
I have had no tidings from Emilie for nearly
three months- Her attentions are so closely directed
to her uncle that she cannot attend to her
correspondents. Had a letter from Lizzie Saturday we
had heard nothing from Leo for about six
months- She complains bitterly for want of time
I suppose she finds her time pretty much
occupied but thinks she is little inclined to
be negligent.
The storm is not so severe as when I first
commenced writing but it is exceedingly cold.
Methinks Nettie does not enjoy cold winter as
those that are just; since you have been bereft
of one of earths enjoyments and are called to mourn
the loss of a dear brother cut down in the
prime of life by deaths relentless hand
It is a happy thought that our friends die- they
still live in our memories, never to be erased by
the elapse of years. When our beloved ones are removed
hence to return no more and their last moments
are like those of the righteous we cannot wish them

Lees again, though their company made a sense of much happiness. The death of friends admonishes us to have our lamps trimmed and burning for we know not when the Lord of more cometh.

I do not know but what I told you that our little Sabbath school was adjourned during this winter, as it was very inconvenient to continue it. Small children could not attend as they are so scattered, in a place like this. The six months that I was a S.S. Teacher I fear I did not half do my duty.

We have our bible class Sabbath evening, which is attended with much interest. All seem attentive and feel so disposed and I wish that more might feel inclined to study the words of God.

It is a very solemn but time here as far as religion is concerned. Sometimes I ask myself how long we in Danville must slumber. May the time not be far distant when many shall be enquiring the way to eternal life. Leigh writes that there has been much interest felt in Danville on this very important subject and that many have hopefully come into the kingdom of God.

I will write a few words about little Annette. She is now 18 months and a very lively child, but cannot step one step. Same and almost all day she looks just like her aunt Augusta and perhaps that is why I love her so fondly. Frances is a wilful thing very old for a child of five years. She has been petted to much and is almost a spoilt child.

I see that my letter is most filled and I must close soon. I could think you might spend your evenings very pleasantly at home and I really wish was there with you. But it is impossible and only do I indulge in such foolish thoughts.

I do not know whether I have answered all of your inquiries or not as I have not your letter at hand.

North Bamstead,
Feb 5th, 1851.

Antoinette

I received a letter from Emilie last Thursday the 30th and she requested me to write immediately to you in regards to attending Detroit this spring. She cannot go on account of her uncle and Aunts at home.
I have waited very impatiently to hear from you but not letter has come and I will not delay any longer to write you. Emilie inclosed your letter and I learned from that that you were undecided about being at Shenimacks this Spring. I have about come to the conclusion not to go.
Should I have words very soon

that you will remain there perhaps I may decide to be there also. The time commences so very soon that need sometime for preparation. My note must be very short this time and will say that if you are at the next town you may perhaps see me for your self but if not you needs must engage any room for me.

Yours in haste

Augusta.

Augusta North Barnstead N.H.

Feb. 7 1857

Reed's F. Merrimack N. H.

Augusta North Barnstead N. H.
March 26 1851
Sunday

North Barnstead March 25th 1851.

My dearest Antoinette

I can assure you that your kind and interesting letter was truly welcome. I had long looked for one from you and first began to think that perhaps you or some of your family were ill. Think your reasons are sufficient without your asking a forgiveness of me.

Spring has again come and for a few days it has been very pleasant I have hoping that all the begrimed snow will be gone soon and then I can roam about and enjoy the fresh air and listen to the sweet notes of the birds.

I am spending my time after the same old way. My reading is now confined to "Miltons Poetical works" "Paradise Lost and regained" I am very much interested in it, think no one can read it, but to like it.

There seems to have been a misunderstanding between us, in regards to attending School at Merrimack. I wished very much to go and did make some trifling preparations and watched the mail very closely expecting a letter from you saying you were going and had engaged room for me. I did not give it up till Saturday one before the time was to commence the

next Monday and then I felt sadly disappointed. Perhaps I did not write quite decided enough in my letter but the reason why I did not. I did not wish to ask Fathers consent unless I knew certainly that I could have you for room mate. I have not quite given up the idea of attending school I may go this autumn and then you too, if you have not other plans for the future.

You and your parents have great reason to rejoice that your dear erring brother has safely in the mercy of God and his adorable Christ to his friends. I look about myself and those in this place and wonder why we are silent and cold as it regards the subject of religion. Little is said upon this important subject either in the church or out of it. To prodigals seems returning to Fathers House where there are mansions prepared for the righteous. You wish to know how my Sabbath School class gets along - in consequence of cold weather the school was closed in the fall, the bible class was continued for a few weeks but as it became colder the interest was so much lessened that what few did attend were obliged to give it up. I was very sorry when it closed, for I delighted to read the Holy Scriptures. I hoped it might be continued and some might be led to inquire the way to eternal life. I do not know anything about the School at Gilmanton this winn. Last winter I visited there and the School was rather small. Mr Tenney did not go in and out of town most of the time. Mrs Hale is there now. My visit was very short at G— I went merely to attend Lucks and Leo Mr Lancaster preach once more as I had not heard him since

I was at school there. I did not make any calls. but spent all of my time with his Folsome. I left home Saturday afternoon and returned Monday evening and it was one of pleasantest evenings I ever saw - the sleighing grand.
Brother Horace returned to Cambridge two or three weeks since and have been quite lonely since he left - his vacation was about six weeks.
I have been in to see my little Nellie to day - she is fine little girl and can run about very fast, but cannot talk much yet - she is a very pleasant child and not afraid to be in the dark. only - she's afraid of Lois.
Emilie has not written very recently - she was well when she last wrote but - had much to do about - Louise, beside most of the care of her uncle, who is with them yet. I suppose he will remain there for the present. Father left this morning for Londonderry - I think I shall hear from E when he returns "Have you heard from Lizzie lately - I have not for a long time - she is in Lowell yet.
You wish to know if I remain at home this summer. I suppose I shall with the exception of visiting a little.
I wish very much to see you and even thought I might visit you this spring, but I have not yet mentioned it to any one.
Brother Smith will go to Concord the 17th of April - is attending the convention which was adjourned till this time and I thought it might be a good time for me to take a trip to Dunbarton. Now Nellie don't think much about it; for it is a little air castle built upon uncertainty. I am hoping E will come to Bowdoin this summer to see her relations

and I shall have a visit from Lee. but Lizzie I dont
expect to see Lee time, for I think she will talk about it-
and do nothing more. Report says that Lizzie and Emily
have dissolved partnership- I consider to be more than mere friendship
and Lizzie is now thinking about a matrimonial contract
with a matter gentleman. I do not know but what all
the girls will get married or engaged but myself, but I do not
mind one, if it is my fate to be so also with I will be content
Emily is studying medicine. from what I learned of him
I rank at G- I should think he was somewhat strange from what
he used to be. I am all that is up- all of the family I love
long since retired. I Love all I think about now will
no else and I think you will thank me to do so if
you not- answer this in a week or two, for my fount-
patience runs nearly exhausted in waiting for your ex-
pected letter. Good night.

The Same, August 15.

Barnstead, Nov 18th 1857.

The last week dear Antoinette has been the saddest I ever seen, save one, that was when my sister died. To friends, who was ever kind true, and confiding, has gone to the Spirit Land. Gone may have leads one steps & stray F. Walker. He died in Boston last Tuesday eve, and his remains were brought home Wednesday eve. His bereaved mother, and eldest brother arrived about two in the afternoon, bringing the sad news that Henry Gone was on his way home, but not as he left, lifey and well. but a lifeless corpse. Two brothers and a sister were there to hear this afflicting news.

In the evening Her Sister and, One only Brother were by Her side,
Felt the keen anguish deeply in His heart,
For He was Shortly to Leave Him His bride
But Heaven ordering wisely Made them part.
come.

The funeral obsequies were attended at the house on Friday, where a large congregation were assembled, the whole with the mourning friends and Visitors, while Mr George gave a affecting and appropriate Sermon from those words, "May Let the Same that gave and Just which Shall never be taken from Her." The Choir Sang with much Solemnity three Select pieces. first- "When blooming youth is snatched away." 2d "Man at gone to the grave." The last, "Dearest Sister Now Has left us." The deceased was possessed of a amiable disposition and Her many virtuous qualities drew around Her many warm friends.

She indulge in a Life, some years since and be united with the church - and has ever lived up to her profession as a Christian She was younger than myself six months and has been our intimate friends of mine ever since our earliest Childhood many, many are the happy hours we have spent together. I loved her next to a sister.

I spent most of the days at Mrs Walters last week - assisting in doing their work - it seemed that I could not do enough for the afflicted family. When I went on Monday morning Mrs Walter met me, but - she was too full to speak - the eldest brother then came to me, and extended his hand, but could only say "Mary Jane is gone, He has been attending medical lectures at Hanover and arrived in Boston

Just a few days before his sister died - the Seven Tim Lawver.
I do not remember when this neighborhood has been so affected by death - all are weeping for the departed one - and there too, who, have not been done to death for so long time.
I hope that life may come out of this death. My friends was sick three weeks - was taken with the inflamatory fever, then the typhoid set in, and afterwards the brain fever. Her sister was with her two weeks and her mother one.
I received your good letter and did not think you had written any to me. for I have not heard from my absent friends quite often. Do write about your dear sons you are losing in the Late war a number of them have.

grande as now covered with
snow and ice - I have had
a bit of sleigh ride. Then you
have precious letters from the
far "west" do you not - I am
not glad to have Mr Mo - sick
but I am glad that he does
not like there well enough
to make it his home, and
carry Nettie there. I think
you are getting along quite fast
in the quilt business. Something
else will come soon I think
I have had one letter from
Lizzie since she went to
Danville and have answered
it - but do not know, but
what she is at home, and
will not get it.
She lives at the west part
of the town has been newly
repaired, and was dedicated
to the worship of God the 23rd
of last month - I thought as

great deal about being there
but was disappointed at last.
in consequence of it being
over cast and some rainy.
The House was full, and the
Clerk of Portsmouth preached
an interesting sermon at Pittsfield
The congregational church has
been recently done over and
an addition to it, and is to
be dedicated, Thanksgiving day
I am feeling to glad now
to think of going anywhere
except to visit that - because
family. I have learned from
sad experience what it
is to leave at distance, and I
can sympathize with them.
Perhaps you may think strange
that I have not written more
about the young man to whom
my friends was engaged - he
seemed very kind & lovely, but
I have not that feeling for

time, that I Love for the
family. He is indeed disappoin-
-ted Report says they were to
Love Leon on mine next week.
But it do not Lessen my self.
Except this letter Leave as it
is. It's just as I felt now.
Write very soon with you not.
If I should Lear from you
every week. I should not
think it too often. Remember
me to all, with you not. I almost
forgot to thank you for that
little compliment.

Ever the same

Augusta

Augusta No. B Farmstead N.H.

Nov. 19 1867

Dunbarton

C

Augusta

North Hampstead N.H.

Dec. 31 1851

Dunbarton

Bamstead, Dec 30th 1851.

My dear Antoinette

Evening Las come and I am very glad for I intend to devote a part of to answering your last precious letter. It is needless for me to say Lans very welcome it was - it contained so much sympathy and Love. It really did my saddened feelings good while I read, I wept, and so it was refreshing to me as tears fly away I cannot forget my loved and departed friends and companion from our earliest childhood, the memory of Ray Jane still lingers and ever will, though Death has severed the ties which bound us so closely together and Las closed to her all earthly scenes but she lives in Heaven and is clothed in the bright and pure robe of righteousness. I trust it is her "gain" Jane may think it strange that I should mourn Ellis for one, who was not united to me by kindred ties, but I feel as though I had almost lost a sister in this friend. The hours we have spent together are unsurpassed in many pleasant moonlight walks we have enjoyed are all mind to me.

Ever since my sisters death, I have clung more

dearly to my friends, and do learned to find in them Sisters, and do for this reason I feel the death of one more keenly.

For 16 last years ago, Augusta & Mary Jane were always seated side by side, and it was ever so, wherever circumstances placed us. Jane called every week and sometimes oftener at Mrs Walker's since she died. She visited that was with her in Boston, has been confined to the house, more than five weeks, with a fever, but she is much better, and do I am hoping she will come and spend the day with me soon. A new year is nigh by - and do so I wish you a happy new year - may it be the happiest of your life. Last new years eve I went to a donation visit at Mrs Geo's - I wish very much to go this next new years eve - but do not know as I shall, for I have not got over a bit of a cold this winter - neither have I had a nice sleigh ride. Nettie I tell you what I will do, I'll find Jean and do ask some one to go with me, will that not be nice. While I think of it I will tell you - that it is thought the obituary notice of Miss Walker, which you spoke of seeing in your paper was, written by her cousin William Walker he felt her death keenly and at her funeral wore the badges of mourning, which seemed rather unusual for a casual visitor, I do not certain if it was written by him, and then I will tell you certainly. This is the Mr Walker you have heard me speak of, also the one I suppose, Mrs Miller "eloped" was engaged to. Perhaps you may think I might write you something

about him, but all that I know, is that, he is in a office with a physician (the name unknown) and whether it is in New Hampshire or not I do not know. I do not like to make many inquiries for there are many misinterpret people and many things go on in B— often, and it is best for me to be quiet; One may come to the conclusion that any interpretation is funny enough. I will say that let him be where he may, he is one of our best young men, and a living Christian. I hardly know what I have written above, but I trust it will be known only to yourself.

It is very strange that Emilie has neglected you so. I had a letter from her the week before thanksgiving, and heard from her again by way of Coe's in Simeon (clerks in Mr Peabody's store) who came from L— Tuesday before thanksgiving she was then very well and spoke of having an unanswered letter from you. When she wrote she thought of going to Boston when her father went, which would be during the winter, and if she did, she should visit her friends in Barnstead and vicinity - and hoped to go to Dunbarton before returning home. Now Nettie do not think much about this, for I have given up all idea about her Emilie here, till she is Mrs Patten which will not be very soon. Dr P— is in New York and thinks of remaining there through the spring - It is sometime I know E— but she has not confessed it, and think she not quite so prompt as she was before she was engaged. It does not make any change in your letters, for they are just as long

and so often. Please tell Lizzie for me, that I shall expect when six months has expired since her last letter was written, she will write again. I am now very much interested in reading a religious book entitled the "Corner Stone" by J. Abbott. Our bible class, that I felt such a strong interest in, has been adjourned - and there does not seem to be any religious interest felt in B— at all. I do sometimes thirst for more religious advantages. We have no social prayer meetings - which strengthen and brighten the Christian's hope. But there is a blessed thought we can approach a throne of grace unseen by human eyes, and there often our whole heart in prayer to God. We are separated from each other yet we can go to the same being for aid and assistance and receive rich supplys from his bountiful hand. It is now quite late - write again soon with you not. I love to hear from you often. Our Father may chase the gloom which does often overshadow me and make my spirits dance in the sunlight of happiness again - remember that I am one alone with but few young friends to associate with. Kindly remember me to all - and take a good night for yourself.

Affectionately Augusta.

Saturday Evening
Feb. 22nd 1862

My dear Darling

Yesterday I received your letter from Germantown and was very much pleased to hear from you. I was very much disappointed at not receiving a letter from you on Thursday, and was very much afraid that you were sick, but I am very glad to hear that you are well. I am very glad that you have had such a pleasant time at Germantown. I am very glad that you have had such a pleasant time at Germantown. I am very glad that you have had such a pleasant time at Germantown.

Dearest Darling

I do not know what I can write that will be very new or interesting to you, I suppose E has told you all about me, and I did think I would not write you at present but I dislike to have old debts not paid that I will write this early. When your home, is we long to be in the "west". But I hope Nellie will visit Augusta once more before she leaves New England I am interested in Mr M- because he is the dearest friend of my dear friend Nellie, and I should be happy to see you both at my quiet home in B. You know it would be only a short and pleasant ride. You do not conjecture anything more about a certain Mr W. than many others do

but- there is no occasion for such remarks and surmisings, neither do I think there ever will be. Mr W— is at home this week— & have not been. Lion, and probably I shall not, unless we meet accidentally, as we have done in times past. I have been very frank, and always intend to be, when this subject is presented. There has been so much said upon this subject, that and almost out of sorts about it, in fact when I am thrown in company with W— I am in as "brown study" (as E— says) to know how to act, and I assure you I feel magnificent enough there I said so much but it must it will be known only to you. Emilie will be here long Mrs Putnam

I suppose my young friends, will be married ones soon. My best wishes attends them, I do not know why. but I think Lizzie and Mr Hatch's engagement will be a long one. does she remain at home this Spring-

It is a bright warm day and the snow will soon be gone, then the beauty of Spring will appear with its sweet and balmy breath. I wish for it to come but it will seem sad, for the friends of my childhood days is gone to her long home. She cannot come as the pleasant, twilight mornings come and cheer me with her sweet, pleasant voice and her countenance beaming with light and life. I wish to feel that God doeth all things aright and do only taken his own.

Augusta Burnham
Mar 12 1852
Dunstable

Bonnstead, May 20th, 1852.

My dear Nettie

Perhaps you have expected to hear from me sooner but I was so hurried with work last week that I had no time for writing, and I might have to make excuse now. Mother and Jane left for Hingston monday and they will not return home till next week, Tuesday. I am sole mistress of affairs. Love four in family beside myself. I begin to think that I know something about housekeeping. I will not waste time in telling you how welcome your letter was, for you know that I am always glad to hear from you. When you are reading, well I should think that it is

a delightful task. I think I should like it myself. I am happy to learn that you are going to remain in New England awhile longer. Now I wish to remove every thought you have in regard to there being anything serious between myself and Mr W— You are not alone in your thoughts why I made queer ideas have taken possession of peoples minds. I cannot see, for I am certain if I know my own affairs that is nothing to call forth such remarks as are made. I have heard nothing from Emile for a long time & the bridal day with Her is drawing near. I do hope she will be very happy in her married life, as she has always had in the just life. Emile has had very little to trouble her. affliction has never darkened

her feelings. Pretty
sorrows of this beautiful subject
have sometimes crossed her path
way and shaded it. but it was
of no more duration than a
vapor.

I should like to hear if Lizzie
Count Mary is yet living. How
much they will miss her when
she is no more. I should think
she has almost been a mother
to them, since their dear mother
died. Hope Lizzie will be
sustained in this sad affliction
by an strong arm. Our Sabbath
School has commenced again
I have my same class again
that I had last year. There is
scarcely no interest in it. Some
few young men are interested
if they were not. I should be
almost discouraged. When
will this coldness which is resting
upon christians be melted in

to love for God, and his holy institutions. and to whom many shall be inquiring the way to eternal life - Pray for me that I may grow in grace and that I may be faithful to my S.S. class, and be the means of leading them to the Saviour.

You wish to know what I find to do nowadays. Lou finished the waltz-coat which I was making when C. was here. It is blue kid trimmed with light blue. I think it is very pretty. Mother and I have quilted four quilts - and shall do more after she gets home. Do not think any thing of this for every one must do their work. Suppose you are all ready for Mr Ho. to come and take you to the west.

How queer it be for all my
good friends to get married
Wonder if Hall Love any
correspondents then.
We are having fine weather
now, I want to like to go out
and run about. I often think
of my dear friends friends boy
gone. How many sweet pleasant
days we have spent together,
when twilight hour comes
it seems to me she must
come and sit, and talk
with me. But alas, she is dead
she is gone never more to
return - sweet memory of her
will ever remain. The grave
yard in which she is buried
is in sight from the window
where I am sitting. I can write
no longer excuse this, Write soon
yes often and I will do better
next time.

Affectionately Augusta

I have a piece of my dress

Augusta Fort Bamstead N. H.

May 21 1862

Dunstable

Augustus-Barnstead Dep. 52
Dunbarton Dept. 52-

Barnstead Sunday 15th 1852

My dear Antoinette

I received your dear good letter last night and as I have a opportunity of sending to Concord tomorrow, I will not let the good be chance slip without writing
I hope you will forgive me for writing Sunday. I think I can excuse myself for doing so, as I cannot get a letter to you till you are far away West, unless I do improve the present.
It is a pleasant Sunday - but we cannot go to our meeting is six miles from here.
I've not forget to thank you many times for your precious epistle. I suppose that something of the kind was taking place the reason why you did not write.
When you are soon to leave New England for a new Home and may it be a happy one - may the richest blessings of Heaven be thine, and may he, and now has your heart's purest strongest affections. Take warning of the like blessings. I might have thought of you the 5th of July had I known what a great event was to take place on that day - but it was to late for me. I do feel some sad when I think you are going away so far - Oh, when shall we meet again - I shall I ever enjoy any more pleasant visits together, such as at past and gone.

I hope we may. Hope keeps the heart warm
What has been important changes since we last
see each other, especially in our little social
circle—two are now married—
All that I know of Lizzie this summer is
what she says in your letters. I dare not hope ever to
receive another letter from her—It has been a
long long time since I had one. I think only
since he was in Dr. last summer. I often ask
myself why it is and the question remains unanswered
—& neither can I solve it.
Have spent nearly the whole summer in my
quiet home, with but a few chosen friends.
Have had some time for reading and other
amusements. We are expecting Brother Horace
home and some relatives from Charlestown
soon. This will be quite a change in my manner
of life. I've not seen Horace since February
neither has he been home. I shall be very glad
to see him. The preparation of leaving again will
take place, which will cast a shadow of sorrow
over the pleasant visit we have had.
I cannot now forget that dear sister, who bade
adieu to earth a few months since. I have felt the
vacancy which her death has made more than
ever this summer. Sweet memory of her clings
closely about me, and it ever will. I cannot
forget the early dead.
How very fast Time passes. it is more than
seven years since Sister died—but I will not
write thus sadly. Trust you too may be safe
when you read this

What can I write you about Emilie. She
is married, and is nicely settled in housekeeping
in a neatly pretty house I am told.
She wrote me the 12th of May inviting me to her
wedding the 19th, but the letter did not reach
me till the 21st. so I was some disappointed.
I have had no letter since, and do not like
to say that she has been very negligent.
I shall not have to thank her for cards or cake
for I have received none. Father was in L—
a few weeks since, and Emilie & Dr P. sent
a pressing invitation for me to visit them soon
after they settled in housekeeping. Is it not nice
for Emilie to live so near home, is it not a
pity that all only daughters can do the same
I think of going to Landaff in September
and do not doubt but what Emily and I shall
have a happy time. I think of being absent
two or three weeks and perhaps longer.
I do not know whether Dr Putnam has any
practice or not. He did not at first. I
hope he will. Accept thanks for your promised
card. Write soon after you are settled in your
new home will you not. I shall wait anxiously
almost impatiently to hear from you. do not let
our correspondence be broken off. because
you are so married. but may we long remain
what we have long been true friends. Remember
to your friends. P.S. Shall direct this to your
father as you wish. Ever do.

Affectionately Augusta.

Mrs Antoinette B. Metcalf

Dunbarton.

New Hampshire.

Augusta. Bar. Road, Nov. 25, 1862

Dubuque, Illinois, Dec. 11, 1862

North Barnstead, Nov 25th, 1862

My own dear Antoinette

I have delayed too long to answer your very precious, interesting letter which reached me some two or three weeks since. The only reason why I have not written sooner is the want of time, tho' it may seem strange, but it is true.

Many changes have happened in our little circle in a few months, and some were very unexpected to me. Lizzie's marriage perfectly surprised me, for I had thought that it would take place for a long time. I learned nothing from it 'til I reached Sandoff, and then Emilie told me all. Since then I have received a letter from Lizzie, but it did not come in season for me to answer it before she left for the "South" and now do not know where to direct.

I went and spent two weeks with Emilie and assure you I did enjoy every bit of the time. E was a little sad just then. They were going to Battle to live. I have learned that Lubbiness was not as good as her husband expected, and they have gone back to Sandoff to live. La Petite says considerable of practice

there. I thanks think it might be a good place for a physician, and if he will suit with patients he may have the whole fields of business. After D became acquainted with L O—. I liked him very well.
Emilie is highly favored—she has a pretty neat, cottage home, just opposite. Her Father and sons in the Mother's perhaps six times in a day—she is rather negligent about writing since she was married.
Our neighborhood has again been called to mourn the death of one dearly beloved by all. Mrs Walker—my dear Mary Jane's mother She died of typhoid fever and her funeral obsequies were attended on sunday to day by a large congregation. She deeply afflicted children feel this death keenly, it is sorrow was regained that which finds relief in weeping. In less than ten years this family has been called to part with Father, Brother, Sister, Mother. Why is it that some are so much afflicted, while others remain entire not one links in the family chain is severed. It's one of the mysteries of God—we cannot know now but we have the assurance of knowing hereafter. Since Mrs W— death our evening Prayer meetings have been established & I do hope they will be sustained through the winter. One year and four days and a christian Mother was buried beside her ever lamented daughter. My dear dear friends I can never forget the sweet memory of her will ever live. I have become strongly attached

to a sister of Mary Jones [illegible] girl and bares her grief with much fortitude I think (though I do not know) with a christians hope Brother Horace came home and united with the church so much last Sabbath he has in Parts - must every opportunity of engaging in every thing of a religious nature. He is about to take charge of Sabbath School there.
Often I think that Nettie is so far away I cannot believe it. Effie too is, or will be soon far away - How very widely we are separated - all of our little circle is married & we one, that one is Augusta who is now writing to you. I am left to represent single blessedness - How I do wish I could just step in and see you sometimes, but what is the use of wishing it is only a vain thing. I wonder if Nettie Stone will long be in the west. I have not been at Gilmanton for so long time and can tell you nothing about affairs there. I am quite a "keeper at home" as you may think.
I am quite ashamed to tell you that I have [illegible] little of late. I have written a great deal and hope you will excuse all. I had some trouble in finding out the place where you wished me to direct my letters, but have copied from yours as near as I could do, for this reason I shall be quite anxious to hear from you again write soon with you. If I had known of any way to ascertain ascertaining the name; I should have delayed a little longer.
Little Mattie [illegible] Augusta

North Barnstead, Jany 27th, 1858.

My ever dear Nellie

Your letter reached me the 22d and I cannot let another mail leave B— without carrying a letter to Nellie. I had looked for a number of days for your letter and at last it came and was truly welcome. I have read and reread it over and over again, such gifts of friendship are ever precious to me, more do mine than ever. Since many of my old friends have ceased to be correspondents any longer. I have just finished a letter to Emilie & am surprised that she has not written to you, she has become very negligent about writing since she was married. I've received but one letter from her since I visited her in October. You must not think you are the only one that neglected. Her domestic cares may perhaps account for it. Mr Putnam has purchased a small farm on Loudcaff about one half a mile from Mr Tenney's. There is a neat pretty cottage house upon the place & Emilie is living quite happy there, happier than ever before since she was married. Mr P has what practis there is in B but that is not enough to maintain them so he intends

to devote a part of his time to farming
I have heard nothing from Lizzie since she left
for the South neither do I know where to direct
a letter. Her marriage seemed very unexpected
to me, I did not hear of it til I visited Emilie
Sometimes when I think that Emilie, Lizzie, Willie
& all married and so widely separated I can
hardly believe it. The question often arises shall
we all ever meet again, perhaps not in this world
but we have the assurance if we are faithful
we may meet where there no partings where
there is no sorrow, naught but joy & happiness
is permitted to enter there.
How bright & glorious is that hope which
will enable us to look beyond the grave.
I am glad you have a social prayer meeting
to go to. You can but appreciate it, we have
had during the winter prayer meetings & class
meetings. It is my delight to attend them, & think
it strengthen my hope in God to go with those
who are the followers of the meek and lowly
Jesus.
You wish me a happy new year, accept in re-
turn my best wishes for your future happiness
May this year be the happiest of your life.
The first day of January we went to make our
husbands George pastoral visit. There were a
large number present, and I did enjoy it

very much. The young people went in the evening. We had singing, so that address and prayer from Mr. George. It seemed almost like a meeting to me. Everything passed so quietly and soberly.
You wish to know what I am accomplishing myself about. I have accomplished very little this weeks. I have been absent from home most three weeks - visited friends in Kingston where I have a grandfather still living. There he is a gray old man, a devoted christian.
I am passing the winter as pleasantly as I could wish. An Indian aunt of mine is spending the winter with us, which makes it very pleasant for us. I do wish that I had more young friends in B— but I ought to be thankful for I have. Ella & Lillie are dear girls. I love them very much. You asks how many of the family are still living. There are three brothers and two sisters.
We are now having fine sleighing, but no snow drifts. The western winter must seem rather strange to you, without any pleasant sleigh rides. I do hope your home will one day be in New England. I have never seen your husband, but hope I may at some future time. I cannot form any idea as to how he looks. Does the "fever & ague" trouble you as it did when you were at the west before.

like that you sent me like your dress is quite pretty and I do like you as fine like and I love the color It is quite modest I think. I can write no more tonight. I feel that this is no fair return for your very long interesting letter. Excuse all and accept what little poor skill you may perhaps in your fine words, Goods night.

Yours ever sincerely.

Augusta North Bamstead N.H.
Oct. 1 1851
Dunnvisitors

Bamstead Sept 30th, 1851.

My own dear Nettie

I did intend to answer your truly welcome letter, last week, but we had so large family and so much house work to do - and sewing which needed to be done, that I have delayed till this evening. Can have learned ere this the cares of a lady daughter, and will be a proper judge of what is required of one at home. Sometimes I feel that I ought to have more patience that I may do more willingly whatever is my duty.

Nettie may wish to know how goes reading with me. I am reading "Stephens' Central America, Chiapas, and Yucatan, in two volums. I am as much interested in it as in his other writings. I have also read a little book, memoir of Mrs L. A. Hooker. She was a lady of eminent piety. Our Sabbath School is still flourishing. I felt unusualy interested in my class last Sabbath. After their lesson was learned I talked with them and found them very attentive and

one of them <u>wept</u>, this was more than I had ever seen before. You do not know what joy it gave me to see one of my little sisters laboring under seeming impressions which I hope will ever attend her till the day entirely consecrates herself to God. There is something needed in B— to awaken christians to their duty and call some many wonderers to Christ. Our last lesson was the crucifixion of Christ. How calmly he suffered and died— Yes, and it was for us— to make an atonement for our sins and yet we slumber and sleep and how [illegible] it be before we awake and be about our heavenly masters work. I fear I ought not to be called a christian, I do so little to warn those about me to make their peace with God. I often think of my pleasant visit with you and the little hours of prayer we enjoyed together— they will not soon be forgotten by me.

Not long ago I had a letter from Emilie— She has not been to walk of late. I am fearful she will not regain her health very soon. I could not but [illegible] so little and tell she did not enjoy any better health than she did before she became acquainted with a Dr. I do not think we shall see her this Autumn— Have given up all idea of

seeing her and if she does come it will be quite unexpected to me.

I have not heard from Lizzie yet. I cannot help thinking sometimes that she does not want to correspond with me any longer, but "Love keeps the heart warm" I will Love on. I am anticipating a lonely time my young friends are all going away and I shall be quite alone. I find that I have my work to enjoy and I will not complain. Do you know what your future plans are, if so let me know them. Ella, Nellie I do hope your home will not be at the far West. I suppose you have had a number of those precious letters of mine since I saw you. I sometimes thought of Visit to Dr Merritts and his dry jokes. Have you are making your clothe you bought in 6. I have got some to make and I wish I had some patterns you had. I have called on some old maids today so you may think I am well nigh being ensciated into the old maids lodge. I have visited Mr. H. Burke Neal of this town. He attended School at Edmonton when you did. He asked many questions about you, which I gladly answered. He finished his studies at New Hampton and has been in Boston teaching in a private family, and taking

Lessons on piano forte. She came home this summer
and brought a very nice instrument, which her
father Lodi bought for her. She is a lovely daughter.
I was glad to learn that Hattie reached Boston
safely. Let me hear from you soon. Remember me
to your friends. I ask an interest in your prayers.
Emily Augusta.

It is now coming very cold but the clouds are beginning to break. I suppose Pa is in school again. Can brother Pa left Jane and Jan as delicate & Jane of your age. I know it Jan are alone or if you are. I shall be lonesome. Father and I am alone - she is dancing with Lee company. That little boy Lee got a name. Boy Pa's name is Burning Bush. I am expecting to Love plenty of fruits from Holly. I Love Jan must keep as cunning

things which is needless for me
to write. Well Nettie I arrived
home safely Wednesday evening and
I felt somewhat fatigued but
did not have much of any head
-ache. The time that I had to wait
in Concord after you left passed
much swifter and pleasanter than
I expected. It seems quite like a
dream that I have visited you
so recently, but it is true that
I have seen your dear self, and
had sweet conversation with you.
I went blackberrying last Saturday
and had the pleasure of as long walk
and not many berrys.
Horace and I made our visit
at Mr Pickerings Sunday. I enjoyed
it very much, though there was
a mingling of sorrow. I thought

Mrs B. Gunnison
Sycamore
Sept 3 1871

of the many happy hours I should have spent there if my sister had lived to be her home, but alas from the day she died she was to have been the bride of Mr Pickering, but why do I write so sadly - all is right & I trust she is happy in heaven. I passed the tomb which is reared the lifeless remains of my sister more than six years ago. I could not realise that so long a time passed since I was made sister-less by the relentless hand of death. Emilie's father spent the night with us last night. He came after we had retired and left this morning before I was up so I had no chance to see after Emilie - I should have

thought she would have written one but she did not. I suppose she is like us very busy. I must tell you how much I lost by being from home one week. There has recently a new steam boat going from Albany to Meredith bridge (a distance of twenty miles,) my brothers went on a excursion as week yesterday and enjoyed it very much. Horace was very sorry that I was not at home to go with him. I enjoyed that day very much with you & may have the best ride some other time which will do just as well. My gloves which I bought in Concord have proved quite a joke on me. When I came to try them on they were both for the left hand and the right must do without. Can you tell whether I got them at the same place that you got your shirting If I knew perhaps I might get them next summer

Brunswick, June 4
1851

My dear Lizzie

When your last little note came I thought I should see your dear self before now, but something has occured to prevent me visiting Stanbortin & I had decided to visit you this present week, but as Aunt of mine come Saturday and will remain with us for the present. I think I shall come yet, but when I cannot tell I suppose you will be at home this Summer. It is a lovely evening and if you were only here what a delightful walk we would have. Every thing is looking very fresh and beautiful – the air is sweet and balmy – the birds are

singing their night-songs.
Sometimes when I think how many
blessings we are favoured with I
can but wonder that we are so
thoughtless and do so little good in
world. Our lives are spent while
many around are removed by the
"tyrant-death" To love and serve God
it does not lessen our earthly pleasures
and why do we not spend more
time for Him - why do we not
entreat many to come and taste
of Christ redeeming blood - It is
indeed a happy thought to me that
I was ever led to trust - and find
safe in God. Nettie pray that I
may grow in grace and that my
life may be a christian life.
By your brother Henry death an
solemn season to rejoice though it
was scarce to dear reminded us
your living brother had been
safely brought into the fold
of Christ: Can we truly say that

life has come out of death.
Soon it will be six years
that I have been Listless. but
it is right, all right; my beloved
dislikes mine Heaven. When I have
finished my course in this frail
world I hope to go and be out
for where there is no parting. I
do not know as it is as pleasant
thing for you to speak of the
departed but to me it is as
pleasure to me. Our Sabbath School
has re opened again and I have
the same class that I had last
summer. It is now quite late
and I must bid you good night
Should you not see me soon
please write,

Yours Augusta.

Augusta N. Barnstead N.H.
June 4 1857

Dunbarton

I don't think I could
rest - write but little
rest - & I have many
things to write my dear Albert -
I will write my dear
writing a long
letter - I long one
as soon as possible
rather a tiff for letter writing, but
I will not let it go
tiffs without your hearing a bit
of a note from me.
What I have feared has now
come to pass I cannot visit
you this week. Sir Percy (Emilie's
father) came here last night, from
Canada with a private conveyance
and intends to return tomorrow
morning and will take Scatter
Smith with him to C—.
It has rained all day nearly
hard and perhaps it will
tomorrow - The reading two, with

Dec 15th 1857.

be very bad and often the cause
I think I had better remain at home
now. I do intend to visit you
this Spring if you are at Home
Off course I shall not think
of coming next as your place
of going so funny
I think Father & Brother will
go to Concord again before long
and I shall have a good opportunity
go and see you - perhaps better
then now.
I should like to know if
the wind blows as hard in
Lambertin to night as it does
here - I do not know as I
ever heard it blow or rain
harder.
Accept thanks Nettie for your
sweet little may-flower and
I should like to know what
the language is - it is the
first that I have had this

Spring - I shall keep it a long time. I love flowers very much though I spend but very little time in cultivating them. I always have plenty of beautiful finches which I prize much delight in.

I am more at leisure now than usual - spend my time in painting, reading, sewing, and assisting in the domestic affairs. I have time to answer all of the letters I can get.

Now I would tell you a little bit of news, if I did not think you had already heard of it - but - I will venture to write it; it will do Louis, Emilie is going to be married. I do not know when. I would ask her father, but I dare not. I think very likely Emilie has told you before now - but -

I have remained ignorant-
'tis as much as I do since - by
Father was there and saw the
gentleman - else I should not
have known it - for as long time
as Emilie has never written one
word upon the subject - She
has always promised me a vi-
-sitation & the succeeding but - this
she intends to slight - me after
all - So it seems Lizzie has that
that - precious thing, called Beau
Lizzie and she Hates have visited
Emilie and she is much pleased
with his appearance - thinks he has
made a nice choice
I have heard nothing from L.
since December - Supposes she is
so taken with he beloved that
she cannot attend to her old
friends - if this is so I do not
exist for such acquaintance
but - will long long to those
patience I have long loved.

Augusta Nov 18th 1851
April 16th 1852
Dear Miss Morris

Barnstead N. H. Augusta
Apr. 21. 1853

Du Quoin Illinois-Cud'd
July 19/53

Barnstead, April 21st, 1853.

[illegible]

[illegible] the greatest pleas-
ure that I received your [illegible] interesting [illegible].
I had begun to think it had been a long time
since I had heard from you. Was thought I did
not for once indulge the thought that you
had forgotten me.
It's a bright lovely Spring day nearly warm
enough to sit without a fire. We have not
had a severe winter. I have hardly seen
a snow drift, and now the ground is quite
dry. I do enjoy going out to walk, and
should be happier if I could have some
of my good friends to accompany me some-
times, but this cannot be, so I will try and
be content.
Can exist me not to be lonely if I can help
it. When I tell you how I am situated
you will not wonder that discontent is often
my companion. Since this year came in
one home lost two of the best [illegible] that

in town could be favoured with their deaths were very deeply felt. Our aged pastor Mr Geary has been sick and not able to preach during this long long winter. It is thought by many that he has done his work that he will not long be our pastor. There is no congregational preaching in town. I fear Nettie will think her friends Augusta is almost a heathen when I tell you I have not been to church since January - excepting to camp meetings.
The people of Barnstead are not living destitute of hate or feeling as far as religious interests are concerned. Our old meeting house (which you remember is quite near us) is to be newly done over many of our people are interested in it and there has been nearly $1000 subscribed I suppose they will commence on it soon I think after our church is finished and dedicated to the worship of God. We shall have one and a one we can call our pastor, and shall on Gods holy Sabbaths assemble ourselves together and hear the gospel preached.
Deprived of so many religious advantages I do fear that I may not live such as devoted life as I ought. Nettie will ever remember me at the throne of grace. Pray for me that I may be as bright and shining light in the world - that may do much good.

Dan may wish to know who fills the vacant places of our deceased Physicians, Dr Wheeler (John Wheeler I think he attended school at G when you did) and Dr William Walker has just finished his studies and come home to practis. Dr Sargent has come back again. I told you the affair between him and myself, he is now married and you will not doubt I am very glad of it.

Now you wish to know what I do find to amuse myself. There is little else I have reading and this you know I do like very much. I am now interested in "Bancroft's History of the United States," & "Grant's method of grace." I've read some of Putnam's Monthly's which I like very well.

It seems quite like a dream to think that our little circle are so sadly separated, and I often think I shall see them all once again till are married except Augusta and the prospect is she will remain. She also may however I believe I am content that my lot should be so I do feel rather old sometimes when I see little girls as it were, coming up and getting married. One young lady in our neighborhood is to be married soon — She is not yet nineteen.

You write me more about Emilie de Leygue. You do not write you. Dan may be surprised when I tell you that I have not received a letter from

Emilie since December. She is very negligent and
I do feel very sad when I think of it. It cannot be
because her domestic cares are so numerous
I cannot judge of it is the last fortnight since
I had a letter written during this month.
I have not heard one word from Lizzie since
she left New England. I wish very much to
hear her last letter but do not know where
to direct it.
I think I shall visit some this summer. I think
I may visit Brother Horace in Portsmouth and
Charlestown he has friends there. I do not think
I can stay at home all this long time.
I almost fear that this poor letter is not worth
sending to the Post Office but remember August
I was just like home as ever. Write very often
you do not know the happiness that the receipt
of a letter gives me. It elevates me in my lonely
moments. Even may be amusements when you have
scarcely a day has passed since your
came but I have seen it and read it.
it is very dear. I shall watch every mail very
closely.

Your own Augusta.

P.S. thanks for your pretty flag you sent. I have not had time to do much work for it yet. I have not seen the Lyttletons since the ball. Mamma is much annoyed, for the Antrobuses are coming to stay with them next week. I do not know whether I shall see them or not. I will write to you as soon as I can. Yours ever affectionately Mary Boyle

My dearest Annie,

I must write you a few lines to tell you how much I am grieved to hear of your illness, and how much I sympathize with you in your sufferings. I cannot tell you how much I wish I could be with you to nurse you, for I am sure I could do you more good than anyone else. I am very busy at present, as I have a great deal to do, and am expecting company to stay with me, so I have not much time to write to you, but I will write to you as often as I can. I hope you will get well very soon, and that you will not suffer much pain. I am sure you must be very tired of lying in bed so long, but I hope you will soon be able to get up. I am sure you must be very glad to get up. I am sure you must be very glad to get up. I am sure you must be very glad to get up.

answered but will sit down this very afternoon and write you a few lines. I know mine will poorly pay for one so good, but I do my best, hoping you will pass over the many imperfections and believe that my love for you is just as strong and true as ever.

Now say you think I might have made it a little by this time, it has been so long since I have written. I have been from home four weeks, returned one week to day, and have not yet got settled down in my old routine of duties and cares. I went to Portsmouth to see Heather Harvey, and stayed three weeks with him, and went to Newmarket and stayed a week with my cousins there. Portsmouth is perhaps I might say the pleasantest city I was ever in

There is so much of the sea breezes, that one does not feel languid in these hot summer days. When one is weary of the noisy city, a short ride will take him away to see and admire the country scenery.

I did feel at first like one in a strange land. I saw no one that I had ever seen before, however I became acquainted with some very pleasant people, among them was Mrs Wright, (Miss Hellen Peard before she was married) Dan have doubtless heard her spoken of, or may have seen some of her writings. She writes many little interesting books for children. I was invited at her house twice to tea, and called several other times. Mrs W— is a particular friend of Brother Hosea's. She feels a deep interest in the Sabbath School, which he is the Superintendent of. She writes for the "Juvenile Sunday School Visitor." She is indeed a very lovely woman - one can but admire her. But I will write no more about her least you may think - I am getting enthusiastic. But I do love those, who have the power to have their minds

filled with goodness. I was there at the "Fourth" and it was all that one could wish for in one short day. Many of the "Sons of Portland" returned to the places, which some years ago their homes and schools, were now whitened with age. A procession was formed, which passed through the streets, consisting of a number of companies of martial music, and then came the "Sons" some from Boston and NewYork, and those residing in P——, then as industrial procession and the "ads and ends". This was quite enough to make one laugh. The day ended agreeably to all - nothing was attempted in which they did succeed. It is said that P—— has not seen such a crowd for many years.

I will not fail to write you about what that I delighted most in - it was attending church and religious meetings. I went to three meetings and Sabbath School, and to Friday evening lectures - which was very interesting. I was never weary of going. Oh, how I long for such privileges at home. Sometimes I fear we shall never enjoy them, and when these fears come

a gentle voice whispers "O ye of little faith,
"Hope on. Surely were it not for faith and hope
"the heart would break."

You wish to know how the works of repairing our
church is progressing. I'll say very well. when I
write again I hope to be able to tell you that our
house is dedicated to the worship of God.
Mr George's health is improved some, but he has
not preached yet & I do not think he ever will
preach much more. When our house is finish-
ed & if we may have a minister but do not
dare think much about it.
It is but to true that summer is quite gone
and I ask myself what good I have done.
I sadly fear none. I fear I have not caused
one name to enrolled in the "Lambs book of life."
Altho I feel that I am a very great sinner
unworthy to be looked upon by the world as a
child of the "meek and lowly Saviour."
I need strength that I may grow in grace
that I may see a way open to unite with the
church of christ. I have ever been so situated
that I could not see my duty & now to do
differently from what I have done. Should
we have a stated, firm congregational preaching
in our place, my feelings will be changed.
I have thought more fervently for you than I ever
have done for any one before. Mr George has never
been strictly orthodox in his preaching. I think
neither do I think has been what a pastor
ought to be to his church and parish.

We need pastoral visits to keep alive in this good cause. I know I ought not to judge, but cannot any will help it, when I can stay and see what pastors, others have to do and direct them. Life hangs but by a little thread, and I may delay to long to act.
Nellie pray for her, who has so deeply spent her whole feelings, that she may have meek light from him who gives light to those in darkness.
When a precious stake has been committed to your care. I know of no one to whome such a gift could be more safely entrusted. God must love it dearly I know. many anxious hours with you have watching over its little bed. I should like to see the dear little soldier folded closly in its mothers arms. has it a name yet. can it be that one, but a little while ago. was my school dear friends is now married and has a little one. I am not awaking neither is it a dream - but is only this, time has been busy on the wing. I had a letter from Emilie not long since - She is well and spoke of writing to you soon. E does not seem to have her domestic cares

Augusta H. Barnstead Aug 5th 1853
Du Quoin Ills. " 8. " 1853

very easily. We ought not think strange that she does not. She was the only child of her parents was petted and indulged, and now she looks for the same. Whatever she has to do is a heavy task. And then she is so anxious about her husband fearing he will not always succeed in his practice, so you see she is quite unwell at the most of the time. I have already filled five pages and half. it is time for me to stop. So please write soon again. will you not. I did enjoy me so much pleasure. I have read yours over and over again.

Ever the same Augusta.

Augusta. Barnstead Jan 10. 1854
Da Lucia. Jan. 26 - 1854 -

North Barnstead, Jan 10th, 1854.

My ever dear Antoinette

I sit me down to the pleasant task of writing to a distant friend and my dear one too. What a precious privilege it is that we may hold conversation with loved ones far away, through the medium of letter writing. Our thoughts may leave us and soar to the place of their destination, while we remain within our own home.
Another year has fled to be numbered with the past and a new one has been ushered in, Shall I not wish you a happy new year. This new year has brought to me its sorrows as well as its joys. I can but feel sad when I think of the dullness and stupidity there is manifested in the subject of religion in Barnstead. Few very few there are who are ready to talk of Christ and his glorious coming. We do need a pastor to lead us to the streams of life, and direct our wandering thoughts (watchword) upward and on to where the banners of rest, which God has prepared for his chosen ones. When we shall have a change I do not know. Our church was rebuilt and dedicated to the worship of God in September. Bro the Rev of Portsmouth preached the dedicatory

sermon. its two years and a little more since I have been there. has been only two services in it since the house is sent and communions, it does seem wrong to one for it to be closed on these long Sabbaths I do hope on, and do intend to hope for a change. Perhaps the bright joyous Spring will make this change. I feel sometimes that I must go away and find some place more congenial to my feelings. I have very little to cheer me except occasional letters from my able and long tried friends, these are rare treasures to me and may I never be deprived of them. I could be happy most anywhere if I could be fed from the sanctuary of God.
How little did I prize these privilege when they were mine to enjoy.
One week to day we made our pastoral visit at Mr George's. The elderly people went in the daytime and the young in the evening — making in all more than one hundred — They were very generous in their donations. I went in the evening and had a pleasant time, and a fine sleigh ride. Mr Goodwin (the minister one the west part of the town) made some very good and useful remarks. and I think the young people would do well to imitate them. Mr Goodwin is a congregational minister, he is very singular in his personal appearance, that it will prevent him from being useful in this place. Mr George is aged and infirm, and does not preach at all. His work is done. he has been a pastor in

B for 50 years. I suppose we shall have our minister instead of one as formerly. The people are desirous of having a convenient meeting, but are not quite ready for it, this is why our new church is not finished.

11th I have been thinking all day about finishing this letter - How much pleasanter it would be if we could only be together tonight, and talk of the past, when we passed many pleasant hours, and talk of present with its many joys. then we could lay some plans even for that.

The past year has made many joys for [illegible] no doubt Yes, a precious little boy has been yours for years gift. May each this new year, teem with new delights and blessings - may it be the happiest of your life.

I do often think I should like to know what kind of society you have at Quincy if you have kind pleasant neighbors.

Nellie may be amused to learn that her friend Augusta has the western fever quite [illegible] frequently express a desire to visit them.

It would be nice for me to come and see you, would it not. Wander into your hair sometime like - Mother perhaps.

My brother Horace is coming [illegible] there [illegible] and I am glad. I intend to stay myself with her [illegible] since September. He is [illegible] I hope he is making himself useful there.

Augusta Bowstead June 5/44
Bangor June 1844 —

Barnstead June 5th 1844

Dearest Antoinette

When you learn how numerous my engagements are, and what has happened, you will not wonder that I am obliged to give up all thoughts of accepting your kind invitation to visit you in your old home in St. with promptness. I must tell you that your friends Augusta is to be married ere many months. It will be as soon as September — and very likely sooner.

I suppose from your letter that you have learned nothing of this, and may think strange that you have been kept so long in the dark upon a subject which lies nearest

my heart. Indeed I have found that I might be married, and attend to housekeeping, before I should hear from you again, but your precious letter came to day, now I am relieved of so much anxiety. I will not let this day pass without writing.

The first question both you will doubtless ask is to whom have I engaged myself. I will answer Sir William Walker. He is one, of the worthy young men, who I have ever respected as friends, a few months since I learned quite unexpectedly that there was a something stronger than this existing on his part, and I gave him my warmest truest love. In looking forward to the future I have need to make me very happy. My future home with be only two miles from my father's,

Pittsfield has purchased the house which Lt Sargent built. It is a neat pretty, cottage house, & in good order, & home, and with one or two goods, I think I shall become one of the happy-est of beings.

I have done a abundance of work and now have minutes to do, before I can be ready to set up house-keeping. Can you just determine a little it is for me to come to B— Now what arrangments can be made I do feel that I must see you, You must come to Barnstable, and if it is too fatiguing for you to take a little stage, can you not come with him your girl for a few days. The stage ~~xxxxxxx~~ from Concord would bring you to Pittsfield any day, and I would send there for you; if this plan fails & you are cant meet this

(summer

I hasten to furnish this towards by to days mail. I think of being away from home a few weeks either this month or next. after that, til the event shall not be many months I do not foresee how you can see Emilie for she does not visit much since she was married. Only think Lizzie has not written me since November 4th and I have known nothing about her.

Your little boys I should be delighted to see - but for that I fear I see little of you unless you come to me. Under present circumstances I think you cannot think of my visiting Sir L.

I regret to learn of your ill health, but hope you will soon recover it to you again.

Miss L. Holsome from Gloucester has been spending a few days with me. She left yesterday - and I did not [illegible] you cannot help sitting right down and answering it. Oliver do do not forget (I can invite me more. Excuse this and accept much love from

Affec

Augusta. Barnsteed
Aug 5 1844
Dearbarton Aug 8. 1844.

I Willie, write to you if I can but
[illegible] I am [illegible]
[illegible] I [illegible]
[illegible] I [illegible]
[illegible] I

dear, best friend.
Nellie wishes to know all
about the arrangements for the future.
Well, you what I have done and
what I am doing. Every thing is comple
ted as far as is necessary in domestic
line. I have my wardrobe, which is not
extensive is not ready, dress & mantilla
excepted. Hat is finished with white
lining, and green & white wreath. I have en
deavored to have every things as neat and plain
as possible. I disapprove of every thing an
decked an occasion that will make a great
show, don't you. My furniture and carpets
are not purchased yet, but will be soon, and
our house will be all furnished before the
seventeenth day which will be in about three
weeks - no day has as yet been set apart.
For many reasons I have decided not to be
married at home. This may appear strange
to you, as it will to all who are not ac-
quainted with the circumstances. Edgecomb

have numerous friends, and should any of those be slighted on this occation it might do him some injury in future (in his professional calls I mean). So I think better have no meeting - We shall invite to Mr Grays and after the ceremony go to our new home and have a quiet time. Give me quietness. I care not how much of it - rather than one bit of display. It would have been my wish to go a journey, but this I knew would not be advisable for the Dr to do. Young Physicians to be successful, must ever be at their post. It is for Williams interest and happiness that I think most of.
Do you not envy one my place in life - the wife of a Dr - strong affections alone prompted me to choose this station.
I trust I have duly considered all these things - and shall be ready to meet whatever may come. Can dear Emilie know very little of the anxieties that are attendant upon the profession as her husband has long since given up practice and gone to farming viz

good earnest, Emilie's health is my fear and I do feel anxious sometimes of what the results may be, though I do not wish us or her friends or herself have any fears about it. If Lizzie should visit Sanbarton this summer - or if you write her very soon - tell her that her friend A still thinks of her - and regrets that a correspondence which has once so pleasant should be closed so strongly - and desires that it may again be renewed. I am weary so I will bid you good night.

It is Sunday - but as there is no meeting that I can attend I will finish this & send by tomorrows mail.

It is hard for me to give up the thought of not seeing you this Summer. Can you and will you not come and visit me when your husband again joins you, by that time I shall be nicely settled in my new home. Do you go "West" again or make New England your future home. Mr Tenney and some of the old Sebastians met at Gilmanton last week for a social interview. I have heard none of the particulars as yet. I think it must have been a pleasant gathering. How fresh those bye gone days are sometimes. They seem only as yesterday

North Barnstead. Augusta Sept 21, 1854

Dunbarton Sept 26, 1854.

(Telling of her marriage.) N. Barnstead, Sept 28th, 1854.

My own Antoinette,

At this late hour in the evening I commence a letter to you. Here I am in my new and daffy home with every thing to make me daffy. I can ask for nothing more in this world. My Nettie knows from experience what happiness is subject her friends is now enjoying. We were married one week to day, at St Georges, and after tea came to our house. It was a dreadful, rainy afternoon, but we were so daffy that we did not mind the rain. We spent the first evening all alone, and it was as daffy one I can tell you. My house is not quite in order yet, but I trust it will be soon. I enjoy keeping house finely - do all myself - and have no one to get things out of place.

My little domestic cares pass off lightly
I can work very fast and have my work
all done when William comes home so
that I can sit with him. Oh! Willie I
never wished to see you so much as I
do now- come will and can you not and
make me a visit; My home is not in
the pleasantest place in the world, but
there is so much real happiness dwelling
within that you would like to visit it.
My love now is so much more, and
so much stronger than for my husband
that it seemes as though I did not love
him any before, It is right that all our
love should not come at first, but should
come little by little, What can give us
more joy than to love, and be loved.
My whole heart and thoughts go with
my pen & might you will bear with
me in this letter will you not, My time
happiness overrules me, so do not think
me foolish. I know you will not if
you love as ardently as I do. It is now

late, and I must bid you good night-
2.8th, I have just been over with William
to call at his old boarding place, and will
now give a little time to your own self.
I am feeling more settled to night- than I have
for many months, can now get breakfast,
dinner & supper with very little confusion
I suppose I shall be very lonely when William
is called away- but do not intend to think
much about it. We had a little skirmish
tonight- as this morning- and she is running
about the table so that I can't hardly write.
We are going to have home always now,
then our family will all be moved home,
We- professed this morning to have a day-
but it did not strike me very favourably,
Our dear Emilie & her husband are intend-
-ing to visit me next week as the weather
after. Have very happy it would make me
to have you here at the same time- happy
this is unfavorable, if we can't meet now
we will often think of each other- and
after we are gone in telling each others thoughts

Liggie has been at home then and returned again to the South. I intends to write again to her very soon.

Can are again in your childhoods home, How very different it is to visit home after having a new one, is it not. I went home yesterday for the first time - but had no taste to stay long without U. This is my home & the place where I delight most to stay. I cannot feel too greatful for such a good and pleasant one. I want for nothing - He has had very little business for a few days - so he has been trying to make himself useful in many ways. He has had some office calls - I suppose they were partly out of curiosity to see this wife.

Please remember me to your family - Can still write soon will you not.

In love as ever.

Dec 24th/54

Augusta Co. Walker's

Dear Sister

In reply to your very welcome letter which reached me last week.

It is Sabbath afternoon, and we have no meeting to attend. I think I can spend a part of the day better than in penning a few lines to an absent and loved friend. William has been home all day but he has just gone to visit a patient. This is one of the unpleasant things connected with the physician life - he must attend to his business on Sunday as on all other days. Can ask if I am alone most of the time. I am alone

the greater part of these cold, blowing days. Just think of me sometimes left alone at midnight with no living thing in the house except my kitten. Do not think me dissatisfied with my lot, for I am very far from being so. It is such as one as I have chosen. I side with William sometimes - especially as he is going in the direction of father. I have not been home to spend a night since I was married. Haven't I done well. When I left my childhood's home it was to be happy in my new & good home which has everything about it so congenial to my wishes, and with the one, whom I love and be loved with such true devotedness, I find enough to keep me constantly occupied. My domestic duties are not very many - yet I find it requires some time to go through the

cules of housekeeping- beside my own sewing, I have Mother Hanes to do which keeps me pretty busy- though I get time to read and attend to my correspondents- they are to precious to be lost or neglected. We are now reading the "memoir of D. Judson." It is so precious book- you have doubtless read it.

Our dear Liggie is indeed afflicted in the death of another beloved sister, but I trust she feels that this bitter sorrow comes from the hand of an all wise God, who does all things right. Ann is no more in this sinful world, but her angelic spirit has gone to God who gave it. It is with sorrow that hearts of this dear ones may ask why it is that she must fall in a strange land with only one friend to weeping sister to smooth her dying pillow and minister to her wants. God bless the dear one friends better than all others in this last sickness.

Augusta N. Barnstead Dec, 24, 1844
Dunbarton, Jan, 1845

I should think this would be most too much for Lizzie. She has not written me yet. Have Ann's remains been brought to Dunbarton for interment.

This death admonishes us to look about ourselves and see if we are ready if we are summoned hence. Emilie & her husband have visited us. They spent one night with us and one day at my father's so it gave Emilie and I some time to be together. One reason she has not written you is that she is getting very negligent about writing. She writes me very seldom. You think I shall be Baptist a year and half hence than now. It may be so but I can't think so as it can be. However I am content to wait till the time is past then I can tell you better. Perhaps you made those remarks in reference to your little Page. I don't doubt but what he has added very much to your happiness. I wish to see your little one. is he as perfect little cupid of his mother if so I shall love him dearly though I never have him. We got our "Emaries" but we are unfortunate enough to lose them both. The last one (a sweet singer) died last week, from an enlarged liver. He was nearly two years old. We think of trying again and perhaps but we may lose them. Hers look, They are

Augusta
N. Barrett Read May 26 '55

Bangor June 6 - 1855 -

Fairfield, May 20th, 1855.

My ever dear Antoinette.

It is with a heart ever pleasing with sorrow that I attempt to write you at this time, Death has entered my childhood home and removed dear and much beloved friends. My dear cousin Jabez C. Titcomb (who you have heard me speak of) died the 22d of August and on the 7th of this month my beloved father died, He was confined to the house more than four weeks. The last days he lived he was a great sufferer, many years consumption has been upon him, and at last wore him out. He had great consolation in his death, he died with a strong hope in God, which made his last moments peaceful & happy. I do not doubt but that my departed father is with sainted spirits in heaven. When I think of the hope he has left us Mother's daily I am silent, no murmuring words escapes my lips. The silent tears will and must flow, but I cannot wish my dear father back again to suffer as he has done for so many years.
Cousin Jabez's death came very unexpectedly

to us all. It was allmost to much for my father & mother they had made much dependance on having him with them since the children have all left home. He was to us as a son and brother, and how could it be otherwise for he had been one of our family circle for ten years, and was ever a kind, dutiful, & thoughtful boy. We little thought that we must part with him, his sickness was only one week, it was a typhoid fever. we did not think him dangerously sick only one day, and even then my friends at times, had strong hops that we could live. When they found he must go it was too late to talk with him. On eighteenth God has taken him from us, & we trust it is well with him, but to know certainly we must wait til the resurrection morn. My dear mother & cousin Jane feel afflicted and lonely, their home does not seem as it did a few weeks since.
My husband has been sick and unable to attend to his business for six weeks. About the time of Johnsides death he got a severe cold which brought on the confluenza badly. Then he had the measels, which he got over with very well, but went out too soon, and was taken down with a slow fever, which has kept him very sick. Pleasant days he is able to walk out, and yesterday he visited

a sick girl in the neighborhood, at the
ernest request of her friends. I do not think
it hurt him any. think he does gain every
day. and will be about his business again
soon. William feels badly that he could not
attend father in his sickness, or be present
at the funeral. think this trouble has made
him sicker. I could not be with father but
very little, and it was a grief to me. When
I did go home. I felt that I must wear
a cheerful countenance, over a heart melting
with sorrow for William's sake. I little
thought when I left home last September
that so great a change would take place
here there, now there are three vacant places
around that once filled table, and the question
comes oft where are they, what has caused
it, the only answer is, the relentless hand
of death has been there, and removed
loved ones, that were to us as sister, brother,
& father, they will never come to us again
but we must go to them, I feel that life
is uncertain, & that we should be
ready to go hence. Death is in our world
and every. often we are called to part with
dear friends. How very true it is that

Friend after friends departs
Who ever hath not lost a friends
There is union here of hearts
That finds not here an end.

It is Sunday, but I could not attend church so I thought could not better employ a part of the day than in writing to my dear Nettie. I received a letter from our cousin Emilie last week - she wished to write me a letter of consolation, but she has known so little of sorrow - that she knew not how to write. Indeed she has never known the bitterness of affliction. My heart is too full to write more at this time. Please write me one of your kind, consoling letters, it is just what I need. I ask to be remembered in your prayers.

Yours in Love, Augusta.

South Burnstead, July 31st 1855.

Dearest Antoinette

My poor aching heart refuses to let me write you at this time but duty demands that I should do so. My beloved William is gone never more to return. He died the 14th of July. Your last letter came just after I left that I must know something such as I had never known or thought of before. William was very sick when a few days before he died at the lungs. He was anxious to come home, and we went to his father's he lived just three weeks

His strength failed so gradually that I could hardly perceive it; yet I knew he was sinking away from earth, and from friends that loved him with our whole hearts. It did seem strange that you should write just as you did in your last; the words seemed to be deeply impressed upon your mind. Oh! Nettie may you never know what it is to be a widow. There is no comfort in this one word, my sad heart knows what it is now. My prayer is that you may live long years with your dearest, best friends, your husband. I had one as one once was who loved and cared for me as

patient sufferer. The last time he ever spoke - he said "raise up my head." I did and he died immediately. I often think that I could not do again, as I did then and would suffer and die in this trying moment.

I have come home to live with my afflicted mother. I gathered my things together sadly and silently and left the place that had been my once happy home never to be [illegible] again. We are so lonely, wretched homeless. Three females live alone as it were. - None of our friends come to be with us now, all gone to their long homes from whence no traveller ever returns. I have (still) to bid me to [illegible] often (angels) to die and be buried by the side of all that is dear to me. I wish you were with me now

sweets as anyone tasted in this life- when everything was dancing in the sunlight of happiness a change came, and such as change may you never know, my days were the brightest, my new home was as blandless as the summer sky, thoughtlessness there except joy & gladness, till sorrow left its marks there. Twice death saddened our hearts and the second time almost took the stroke. William had a strong desire to live for me, aside from that he was ready to go at his heavenly fathers call, his was not a death-bed repentance. Twelve years since he united himself with the chosen people

of Gods. he has been an every
day christian. His home is with
the just in heaven. Do you
dear Nettie think that the spirits
of our departed friends are
watching around us in this world.
Oh! daily I thought the spirit of my
departed husband is my guardi
-an angel to watch my wander
ing footsteps now. I cannot resist
the
my again in this wicked world
to suffer, sicken, and die.
though it is hard to give him up
and see his dear remains placed
in the cold grave. Sometimes
I feel that he must come
back and clasp me to his dear
bosom again. Dont me weep,
and shed bitter tears-it will
ease my poor breaking heart-
My sorrow is hard to be borne
yet I must submit to the will

of an all wise God which doeth all things well. He has taken only his own he has a better right to his own children than earthly parents or friends.

It was just ten months the day that he died that we were married. How soon the change came in just ten months the bridal day was changed into one of the darkest sorrow. He lived long enough to know that his fondest hopes were realized and was as first and only love it had had had a mutual existence from our earliest recollections, but it had remained unknown to each other till six months before our marriage.

When I last wrote you William was improving in health very fast he even gained seven pounds of flesh in two weeks

He died since Hart's visit
alone. He visited a few patients
and attended one obstetrical
call. I hope he would soon
be enjoying his usual health.
He lived four and half weeks
after the first attack of bleeding.
He had a number attacks of it
and one servant girl feared that
he would die in ann, but we
felt comforted for he raised on
blood for two weeks before his
death. I could not give him
up and think he must die till
the very last. I have often thought
that it was for the best that
I did not, for I should have
been unfit to have watched over
him, and done what he needed
to have done. He was so calm

It is so calm and pleasant. I
would go back & leave you the
dear ones here with my William, my
father & sister. I do not know but
what you have returned
to the far west - it may only with
you may come to see me once more
The future has no bright days for
me. I only think of the present and
the dark, mysterious past.
I have no one to come and
visit & talk with me at twilight's
quiet hour.
Sept 2d. The holy Sabbath has come
again, but we are still deprived
of stated preaching. Never did I so
much desire the precious words of
God. I long to have my dear heart
refreshed from the living fountain
life. How long we must live thus
I do not know. Again & again
are we reminded of the shortness
time. Time after time are we called
to fall down some dear object - the first
last resting place. I hope this finds
father with all his & your
friends ones all well and enjoying
all the happiness you can in a world
like ours. I think of being in town next
next Sunday & Monday and perhaps may
make you a visit. Lotty I should be so glad to see you
if you were in Dunbarton. Write very soon
& give me a full and particular account of
all your doings & friends.
Augusta W. Walker.

Emilie Voth Barnstead
Nov 27 - 1895

Envelope: Nov 1895 Potts Barnsteads, Nov 27, 95

Antoinette dearest:

How very often we are reminded of the uncertainty of life - one after another is called away from earth. Two days since we read the death of our dear and old friends Lizzie & am feeling very anxious to learn the particulars of her sickness and death. The Barnsdons family are often and deeply afflicted, may they all be supported by that God who never leaves or forsakes his people. The sayer says, "Christ loves very precious to him, she can't trust Him fully from this assurance her friends can gain much consolation. It seems but yesterday since Libby died, I do not remember just how long it is. How Annie

remains can been brought to Dumbarton for interment. Lizzie went "Down" for her husbands death, but she has first been called to try the realities of another world. When you write please tell me every particular that you know.

I ought to have written sooner but my poor, lonely, sad heart will scarcely let me write at all. I am a lone and lonely being - and in one sence with none to love. I do not feel the stroke less, than when it was first inflicted. I do recognize the hands of God in all these afflictions. More than four months has passed away since my dear William left us. Not an hour passes without my thinking of him and the dear, daffy [illegible] we spent together. Oh, it will never never be forgotten. I often in sleeping hours dream of being with and seeing him.

I have never dreamed of seeing him in Heaven, but Dick and I was carrying him about or doing something to make him more comfortable. Last year was the happiest of my life, and I little thought of how much sorrow the succeeding one would bring. It is most Thanksgiving day, again but how changed from last year, we were all together then, a happy family- John, father, William, will no more come around our table. Sometimes I almost wish that there might be no more such day this year, but I ought not wish either to be deprived of such joy and happiness, however my own hopes are blighted, and my every thought and feeling saddened. Happy thought there is no rest beyond this world. Sometimes I desire to find that happy rest. Heaven is so glorious a place and I feel that I have something too draw me there- the

dearest Cathy friend is there,
other dear ones too.
Since your last come Emilio
has written one of his good
long letters, full of sympathy
& words as she could give. She is
very daffy, as much so as you
are yourself. You have quite a
little family gathered about
you so soon. It does not
seem possible that you can
be the mother of three boys.
I trust you are, and ever will
be a good mother. I would
not complain if I could have
had one boy and you one, in the
4 years having babies. We are
so apt to say things when we
know that every thing is right.
Your little ones are round
are this so it is unnessary
for me to write anything
about it now. You will have
enough to keep you constantly
employed, but do not overtax
yourself - remember that your

own health is very precious to
children - husband, and friends.
We are very lonely here. Mother
and myself are alone most of
the time - Cora in Jone (the third
person spoken of in my last) is
going to school. My head
does ache badly to-night so I
must not write longer I hope
you will write again soon -
Letters do me so much good
they are very precious to me.

In much love

Augusta.

Augustus Bartlett
Feb. 12, 1856
Dunbarton Feb 14-1856

North Barnstead, Feb , 1856.

Antoinette dearest

Perhaps you little thought when you were writing to me last, where your letter would find me, I was in Bethlehem with our old friends Emilie. I came home Thursday, after having spent four weeks very pleasantly, Emilie is quite well now for her, and appears very happy. Indeed I dont know how she can be otherwise than happy. Her Father & Mother are living with her - She is ever having blessings showered upon her. Never has her pathway been darkened, should she have troubles such as others have had or were she in my own place, I could not but think how soon she would sink under them. If she could only think what the manners sorrows are - she would not wish to be them always to be cheerful, but would be willing to allow them at times to give vent to their heart's inmost grief - neither would she wish to have it taken away from them.
I did think sometimes while at B - that I would not visit for the future only among my own relations. If it is impossible for me

to be always cheerful, and I do not wish to make other sorrows after our Lords darks. It has been truely said that "every heart knows its own sorrow"

I cannot finds words to tell another my sorrows or the strength that is almost in my mind, & the Gods of the whole earth sustains me. When the tenderest ties were broken he put underneath me his everlasting arm, and this funds in as gentle voice it will be the "widows Gods". His precious promise has steeled and strengthened me and ever will in my darkened pathway. I have never felt that Gods love so very near as now since I been so deeply afflicted. It seem to me but one step between this and another world. I sometimes wish to depart, and finds the "better country", where sickness, death, afflictions are unknown. Happy thought there is a heaven where nought but happiness is permitted to dwell. where the righteous obtain crowns of righteousness.

It is most seven months since William died, and most a year since Cousin's death. Oh! how very ~~It~~ this last year has been and how full of sorrow. We little know what will happen this year. Last years dawn upon me with the most joy and

gladness of any of my life, and with it ended my brightest days.
When I returned from B I stayed one night in Concord. I cannot tell you how much I wished to visit you, or how many times I thought of you and your little ones - often, very often do I think of you. May the richest blessings of God rest upon you and yours.
It was exceedingly cold when I came home, but think I should have tried to visit Dunbarton had I not been obliged to hasten home as soon as I could, to help Cousin Jane get ready to go away to school. She has gone to Pittsfield. The term commenced yesterday.
Mother and I are alone now. Jane is the life of the house, now we are really very lonly. It seems to me she has been gone certainly a week.
Poor Lizzie is no more. How very sad it must be for the Hatch to have die in a strange land. it is sad enough to have friends die in the bosome of there own families.
Your little ones are named Hatch. I think you have given them very pretty names.
I have little more to write. Remember me to your parents and take much love yourself
I hope to hear from you soon. Truly Augusta.

Barnstead, May 20th 1884.

Dear Father

I have delayed writing you for so long a time thinking that I might feel more like letter writing. My feelings are much the most of the time that it is a task for me to gather up my thoughts enough to write.

I will try and correspond as long as you can find time in your family. I am quite well, and am spending my time the same as usual. My life is not as cheerful one. There is very little to make my poor sad heart dance in the sunlight of happiness. My brightest hopes have been crushed. I feel at times that there is

August 1st Bonniesse May 2nd 1852

but little to live for, there is no bright future for me to enjoy Last Sunday I was requested by hearing two goods Sermons preached by Rev Mr Hoods pastor of the congregational church in Pittsfield. He had wished to spend one Sabbath with us for some time, and he was invited to come last Sunday.

Mr George has not preached here since November, and you may think we are in a destitute condition. We have just got a Sewing circle nicely organized, for some benevolent object. There is four officers a president and two directresses. I am one of them, and most of the care falls upon me. There are now 26 member, and more that intend to join.

You ask to where my brother Harvey

is- he is in Portsmouth- where he has been for some time. He came home and spent most of a week with us- usually his are often, and short, only one night,

Cousin Jane is home again. It was not so lonesome as we anticipated during her absence for Aunt Sarah (Martin's sister) came and stayed with us.

We are expecting to have a great deal of work to do this season for we are to have our house thoroughly repainted, also a barn built.

I do think of you and your little ones very often, and wish very much to see you all, but when I shall I cannot tell. Are you thinking of going East again this season. Can [illegible]-

have so much to do - that you cannot know hardly what to do first; I should so much enjoy to drop in sometimes and lend an helping hand, for it seems to me that I have no one to care for now.

One year has quickly flocked by since my father passed away from earth, and soon it will be a year since my dear husband left me a lone one in this world, Even now I think of it as only yesterday that I saw him pass away - The question often comes up in my mind why is it that I am so much a child of sorrow and disappointment, the only answer is that God has wise purposes in view, Now Nettie I finds my place is with my dear fellow

Mrs. Burnstead, Aug 26 1876

My dear Antoinette

It is needless for me to tell you how very happy I was to receive your last very good letter. I only wish you were so long silent, neither did wonder at it. You have so many cares now. None of my friends have answered my letters with so much promptness as you have. I must tell you what great strangers we had come to see us yesterday, It was Emilie's father & mother. They had not visited us for some time, not since death has made such ravages in our family. They left this morning. Emilie is

rather better than usual, for Mother thinks. She does not think of coming to Barnstead this season, so I shall not see her.

I do not like to think of your going west again without seeing you, but I suppose it must be so if you go as you thought of doing when you wrote. I should think you would dread such a journey with so many little ones.

Co few days since I noticed in the paper the death of Frank Hale also Henry. It is sad to think how many are taken away by that fatal destroyer consumption.

Mattie Walker is fast wasting away by this disease - she cannot live very long - she has been confined to her bed for weeks. When I think of the dead and dying

I do not care to live longer. There are many sad hours for me and must ever be, were it not that I was strengthen by something more than earthly hopes I should sink under the load of sorrow, I know I ought not to feel, and it seems strong to those who have never known sorrow that I should at times give way to my feelings of sadness. He for Hatch has returned with the remains of dear Lizzie & Hattie Has very pleasant it must for the friends to think that they have at last found a resting place in a land that gave them birth. I think of going to Portsmouth the last of the week to visit Horace. I have had, and accepted an invitation to stop with Mrs Knight

You know by well by her writings I wrote last that we were having our house thoroughly repaired - and it is not done yet, but think it may be in two or three weeks While I write the carpenters are busy with their hammers, and the dancing room where I am sitting being papered - and the painter is at work in the kitchen, so you may think we are busy enough, We have been all confusion this summer - tearing down & building up. I cannot write longer this time. Please write me very soon.

Yours in Love

Augusta.

North Barnstead Oct 17, 1856

My dear Nettie

Yesterday I learned of your sad & afflicting loss in the Illness (an acquaintance of yours) who was at conference of Churches, which was held at Barnstead Parade. I felt sad & sinking feeling at this unexpected news - I supposed you were all happy and well. How unexpected death comes to us. My fair sad heart aches for you. Oh, how hard it is to say silently and submissively "Thy will be done". In this trying

Time all that I can do for you is
to give you the same advice
which you gave me when
death snatched one friend
after another from my love and
embrace. Trust in God—he will
sustain and direct in all your
sorrows. You feel assured that
your precious babes are with in
heaven—he has more care over
them than you earthly parent
could have—Ought you not
rather rejoice that he has called
them so early away, ere the
sorrows and temptations of this
world had overshadowed
their young hearts. These precious
babes never knew sadness—
they never drank of that well
of woe. Death is better, oh how better

In the death of a child I can not sympathise with you, but I have seen so many friends pass away from earth, that I feel to sympathise in all your sorrow. Rejoice dearest Nettie that you have some friends - your parents - and more than all that your dear life is spared and you have not left motherless. I will not, cannot ask you not to mourn - your sad heart must have relief - at times you will be very sad and almost sink at this beneath this load of grief - I sometimes have a desire to depart and be with those dear ones who have gone before. Death of friends makes us think more of dying ourselves

While our dear ones are spared us, we have something to live for - when they are gone we desire to go and be with them. It is indeed a very pleasant thought for me to think that my dear William, so dear to me while he lived on this earth, is now with holy angels and redeemed spirits in heaven. One beautiful thought which I cannot help writing is this - that angels accompany our departed ones and welcome them home to glory. Even the death bed is guarded by these ministering spirits. "How blest the righteous when they die When heaven unveils its glories, and the soul" While you are watching and weeping over the loved one; it has

was standing by the bedside
of the sick and dying mother
Walker died Sept 17th after a
long and lingering sickness of
four months— I knew her only
to love her. She was one who
gained the love of all. Mildness
and gentleness ever marked her
character— She died in peace.
and I think of her as fallen as-
leep in Jesus. Your babes
Nellie I think of them as lambs
in the fold of Christ— they
are clothed in "fatless garments"
more beautiful than any you
could make for them. and
are now wearing crowns of
righteousness. I have now writ-
ten long, and must soon close

It is my desire and prayer to God that your dear only child may long be spared to comfort you and your husband through this dark journey of life.

I have tryed to make this letter to you as sympathising one, and hope that nothing has been written which may seem harsh to you. I know how keenly the mourner feels - and how tender are his feelings - & few times my own wounded heart has felt doubly grieved by a few written words from those who had not even known dear Willie. I have felt to day as if - I must see you and tell you how deeply I feel for you - but I cannot, and as it is, it is all right

N

I received your letter to day and write this early Lafayette that you may get it before you go "west". When time I shall expect to hear from you again. I should have written you to day had your letter not reached me. Please give my kindest regards to your parents, also to your husband so I feel acquainted with them almost. Excuse all so I have penned this in the greatest haste. I have hardly had time to think,

In much love,

Augusta,

A. N. Webster Walker

East Hampton Nov 10, 1861.

My dearest Antoinette

I knew before your letter came how your heart was aching for I had read of your mothers death in the Journal. To you it must be a severe affliction, a severe affliction | I never knew, but I have so often dreamed I was cast to it very deep, that I can sympathise with anyone in sorrow. I had heard of your brother George's decease. I hope he is by this time quite recovered. I have thought many times since your letter came how grieved you must miss your Brother, what loneliness must come over you when you thought that he has gone never more to return. His grave to

death
Jon is one of seven, twice has entered
your family circle, taken loved
ones from you & felt extremely
sad when I parted from you
all last Summer at Denbutin.
and thought some one was marked
for death. How many years your
Mother has tried to suffer and
battle with disease.
You see by the date of this that I
am in East Kingston. I came five
weeks to day. I did not think
when I came that I should stand
beside the sick and dying bed-
side of my aged Grandfather,
but so it is, he has left us at the
advanced age of 93 years 7 months
and a few days. God has been
good to spare him so long to us.
His work on earth is finished
and. and it has been done well.
I have no reason to doubt

but that he is now "one around
the throne above" & can sing
that swaging song he has taken
so much pleasure in here
&c &c

I see by the date of your
that nearly two months has passed
since it was received and I
ought to be very sorry to keep
you waiting such a long time
for an answer but you know
this is a fault of mine which
I cannot very easily overcome
and friends must submit.
Emilie has I should think
determined never again to
notice us as friends or correspond-
ents, but so far as I am concern-
ed I have as clear conscience
and if she does not choose to cor-
respond I do not desire it.
P.S. She should give you up if I can't

think. I have very little to write that will be of much interest to you. All my days are so much alike, and so very little of interest happens that I think and do.
I have been very busy since I have been here that doing some sewing for aunts- making dresses and so forth.
Fancy work has been laid aside of late- I now intend to knit one a shawl this winter, which I intend will write you all about when it is all completed.
I now expect to remain here a few weeks longer, then go to Portsmouth. I hope you will write me one of your good letters very soon if you do please direct to Portsmouth Care of Horace Webber Esq- With the best love of your absent friends Augusta.

Gilmanton, Aug 12.
, 1862.

My dear Antoinette

If amid all your cares you can find time to write I certainly ought to be very prompt in attending to my correspondents, Thine is and ever will be as negligent feeling as far as letter writing is concerned. I will thank you many times for your last good, interesting letter. I would not object to receive one from you more often, this I should not dare to ask of you with your little family. How much I should love to see you in your own home

with your loved ones about you. This however may never be my pleasure to do. God has made my life more checkered & I am yours. The wounds in my own heart do not heal as soon as in some but they will often bleed afresh. I will "be still" and not murmur against the will of a just God. He chastens for our best good. You will see by this that I am not at home. I came here last week to spend a few days with an Aunt (my father's sister) and to see other friends. I have not visited that part of the town where we spent our happy school days - indeed I do not see

to do so there has been such a change - only a few are there that were when we were. You ask for Emilie. I can give you no information concerning her - I think of her sometimes like you self, but it's only a thought. I noticed in last week's Journal that Mr Willey (or Mr Willey) had closed his ministry in East Sumner Me, but where he is going it did not say. He had been there for eleven years. You ask if I have been at home all summer. In June I went to Portsmouth and spent nearly three weeks with my brother H— he remains there yet. Dr Ryder the dentist is in

D— I had the pleasure if it can be called such of calling on him, and seeing with any mouth open for about an hour— I have never engaged any other dentist but him.

14th January is nearly past and to have I do not know. I spend my days and weeks as usual I am sewing but not doing much of any to note. I am knitting some pointers flannels— which I think I may like very much. When I wrote last I was about a shawl. That is finished and is quite pretty and convenient.

You speak of your father in his loneliness— I wonder

he does not go to see you.
It must be very pleasant for
you to think that Dan at
your old home has another
sister and one they like.
How much sorrow this war
is casting over everything.
would that peace might
be restored to our once happy
nations. This unto they have
been getting the summer catalogue
so as not to wait to drafting.
How many homes will be made
to mourn - and how many
mourners will be in our
midst in consequent of this
uncalled for war.
Times flies and I must close
this letter - Please write again
very soon for it gives me
great pleasure to hear from
you often Except the kindest
love of your absent friends Lizzie

Portsmouth, Dec 1st, 1864

My dear Nettie

I have received your letter to day it has been a long time finding me - It was sent from B - to E, Hungerford, and for what reason I do not know then it was remailed here, and at this late time I have received and read it. I did not know why you were so very silent and conjectured many things from this long delay. But all is explained now, another letter one I do hope is added to your number to come and cheer for, giving joy and gladness to [illegible] while many are groaning in darkness, amid

the sorrows and afflictions
of this world. Since I wrote
last death has entered our
family circle and taken
one we wanted glad to have
left with us. Brother Horace
wife died the first day of
Sept. Five days before her death
she gave birth to a dead infant
We suppose and so did every
one that she was comfortable
and wanted recover, though
very sick. None realized that
she would so soon pass away
only a few hours before
Horace has buried his great
sorrow deep within his own
heart, so that none can
know the anguish hidden there
save those who have passed
through these great trials
of afflictions, Experience
has long since taught me to

many heart aches there are caused by the death of our dearest earthly ones or bosom friends - And of Gods ever & dear ones This sorrow is the sincerest of one ends his known sweet sorrow and one of this worlds greatest disappointments. I come here to spend a few months with my brother at his urgent request. He was so sad and his house as he says "so dark and lonesome" In this sudden death I do feel that I have found a mercy which is to me like a crisis death. I do often ask myself if I shall ever get with all of my loved ones from earth.

Please accept the notices you find enclosed. May with the you rest & the ones & as all

Last week was Thanksgiving I went away to spend the day and a few more with my mother's friends.
All of the family went away and I did not wish to stay here alone. Horace is in New York now, where he has gone to improve his health, and my niece also is attending school and the girl who is a very good one is all the family we have
I have plenty of time, besides enough tasks to work. I intend to improve this opportunity as a golden one. There is a library left here which my brother has the care of called the "Christian Work Club" There are many good, choice books in it.

and I can have access to them. At home I do not have this opportunity, as there are so many books. I have but little sewing to do now, have done but little fancy work recently. My stand you died off is not so pretty as you think, though very nice and room for the house when I need it; the religious privileges have I enjoy so much - having the three meetings to attend on the Sabbath, beside the Friday evening meeting. All of these I do not often fail to attend, indeed I do not like to loose them.

Mrs Knight & I are somewhat acquainted with through the "Childs papers and her other writings is my most intimate

friends here. I was at Lutas
last week to see Ida she is a
dear good woman. I can
not admire her - Diner will
not allow me to write more
now. Accept my thanks
for your letter, and write
again soon. If no moments
will permit and believe
me your Lovering

Augusta

North Barnstead, Jany 24, 1865

My dear Antoinette

Your letter came yesterday and could not refrain from commencing one to you to night. You must do kind to write so soon much sooner than I expected, my few duties and cares shall not hinder me from answering a letter from one who has her many cares and little ones to look after. Receipt many thanks for the deep interest you feel in our recent affliction which has pained our hearts so much, deeply had our last sorrow pressed us as we this sad one come.

Our family circle is so small now that any new visitation from the relentless hand of death is hard to be borne by us.

This recent death is full of life
to us- "Though he is dead yet he
liveth" in yonder bright world
where many of our loved ones
have entered but a little while
before him- We were looking forward
with fond hopes when another
angel should be added
to number, little dreaming
that its birth would add one
more in the Spirit world, but
such is life, it is full of disap-
pointment and heart rending
sorrow- All that we can do is
to put our trust in God, go to
him with our burdened spirits
and "pray without ceasing"
How little do we do this wrestle
with our God in prayer. I do
often think if we would do
this we might see much good
resulting. I most earnestly
desire that I may see another re-

revival of religion in this place.
We have just had a death in
our neighborhood, It was that
of a dying christian. He had been
confined to his bed for about
eight months, before this he was a
constant attendant at the prayer
meetings. He earnestly desired the
conversation of his friends and
family - and it seems to thought
I can see him with uprised
hands pleading in their behalf
Many hearts were touched and
I can but hope that life will
come out of the christians death.
I was with my brother seven
weeks, and now Mother is with
him, I think when I left him
he was more cheerful than before
I went, I hope will be able to
look upon his affliction with
christian trust,

26th,

I again take up my pen to finish this letter to you. You desire of me that I write with you, what I think when I tell you the Lord does not as yet of late say this month the grounds has been as low as in October, and the weather as mild.

I was happy to hear of your father's improved health, and that he will be able to preach again if he desires to do so as yet, for there is a great work to be done in this wicked world.

I will not fail to say that Dr Patterson, Emilie's husband was here the 3d of this month, He came to see my brother, and called to see me, He said he felt that he could not go out of the place without doing so. His call was very short

only five or ten minutes. He said
Emilie was well and her mother
was with them. They are living
house in Preston, Canada.
He looked and offered
very well. E has not written
since I saw you last.
You ask how I occupy my time
very much the same as usual.
Saw Mather is away I have some
house work to do. I read some
but not as much as I should
like as I have time to do. I hope
I may have done tasks - as I
was expecting with our minister
Mr Carr, last evening, and find
he has quite a library. He loans
with as a part of the time.
The have good sermons, which
are spiritual food to me.
Divine administers one "Sacra-
ment" dear, and write often
letters to friends. Your friends August

North Barnstead Aug 31 1863

My dear Nettie

So very long time has passed since I received your last letter I fear you think I have been neglectful for so few words. Last you will excuse me I do not doubt. When the Spring Term at Gilmanton with Mr Lathrop closed I returned to Deerfield after I had been with her nearly two months. I had been home scarce three days a few weeks when Heather Frank Watkins wife was taken sick. I went to see her, not expecting however to die. But die she must be my duty to be minister to one very

dear to one, since the last Xmas.
I the kinds but one dear south
after I went to the home,
I remained with the afflicted
parents four months after their
precious, darling child was
laid in the silent tomb.
To the mother it was a great one
as she has always thought one
God ever gave her.
Dear dear Nellie that death
is ever visiting my family circle
or breaking the dearest of friend
ships ties. It has been but a
few short months since our
dear Hannah was called to
that better land, now another
just as dearly beloved as her
taken to her long home.
Since this death I have often
asked myself and of friends
ones will be next.
How very small my circle

of friends has become. Gladness
or part of them have already
reached the bright home of
rest, Oh, how glad we shall
be, are with Gladness Redeem-
ed singing sweet songs of praise
in that happy land.
Life is so short and has little
there to live for—Sounds more
to draw us towards heaven.
Those afflictions which have been
so often repeated to me can
but teach one that this land
is not my home. That heaven
are waiting to welcome one there.
Your letter remained in the
office while I was in Scotland
but so I did not receive it
very soon. Accept many thanks
for it and the picture of your
self which it contained.
I shall be glad that I might
see my dear Nettie once more

but the picture itself came quite unexpectedly. It is like you but I see that you like myself have grown older. A life sometime you will be able to see one like the same way. I regret that I cannot go to you in this letter, but I will some I think sometime. I was very sorry to learn of the illness of your family in the winter. Life this season summons from them his health again.

I have been thinking to night of our school days at Gibson. Those precious prayer meetings that it was our privilege to attend. I look back upon them with much pleasure but just at the same time how I misimproved them. How little strength their influence did I grow in the Christian virtues.

I give you no further account of Emilie She does not appear to notice her old friends in the least. If she does not care to do so I should not to the friends as she appears to be. Can say you are glad that we have heard of you safely you ought to be so for we have felt the need of one for a long time. You ask if I have heard from his library I have not but should judge he might have some very good books for sale. I have seen.

He spends a part of the time with us, he is with us now. My husband & sisters are at their father's now. I hope to be able to spend some time with them Father Wilkins is very feeble

health. I do not think he can live long the two last attacks of bleeding fearfully.

I was happy to hear from your father & brother through your letter. I wonder if your brother has a child or children.

I am rather lonely at times. I feel like needs at times of some kind friends in Richmond I can confide. But I suppose it is all right that I am left to myself. I find enough to occupy me from being idle. I find that I can spend some of the moments in doing some little thing for others. Would I were near you that I might take a friendly stick for you or your little ones. I have just finished one for Willis Locke and a little jacket. These are kindly received by those whose hands

are full of books. I am interested
in doing some studies in a new
crochet stitch. They are of flowers.
How do you suppose I can make
every thing. When will it ever
end? But for as long time to
come I fear. I hope we may
be more prompt in writing in
the future, then we have in the
past. Please write soon and
believe me your true friend,

Augusta.

Mother not do write to you & Rose
is engaged in another letter
to Mary - Hannah
dear Lucy I was glad
to receive a letter
from you & to learn
that you were well
I received a letter
from Father & Mother
a few days since
they were well
Father Baker died
on the 17th of
last month
he was taken
sick on the 6th
& died on the
17th - he was
sick but a few
days - he died
of Typhoid
Pneumonia
Mother has
been very
lonely since
Father died
she has
been to
Hannah's
& to
Rose's
& has
been
to
Mary's
& has
been
to
Rose's
& has
been
to
Mary's
& has
been
to
Rose's
& has
been
to
Mary's
& has
been

for the last year. In September I went to Roxbury to spend a few weeks with my husband's sister. While there I visited friends in Cambridge-
I made a nice visit- time just swiftly and before I knew it I had been absent over eight weeks- returned the week before Thanksgiving. Can only know that day I passed with one I will reply very much the same all have for the last eight years there are more sad feelings than joyous ones.
I did like on that day to attend church, but was disappointed.
I fear I may not be able to give you much information in the way of news but for I am not right enough to

write it. If I was with you
or near you I might be of
some use to you, and help
fill up the fancy articles for
your Fair. There is to be a Fair
in Boston this week I think,
for the Sanitary Commission by
the Ladies of New England.
They hope to raise fifty thou-
sand dollars, to be appropriated
for the Soldiers. This is one
more happy United States A-
merica, and at war.
I was happy to learn from
your brother and family and
father.
18. Your letter says send your
face in that Gail, so here it
is as good as could be expected,
This is my first attempt to get
a photograph and I did not
set for this only once.
I felt so shy you know I made

that you have been obliged to go to the dentists. I have had some experience in that line, Father Walker is very sick, evidently in the last stages of consumption. Thanksgiving morning he had an attack of bleeding at the lungs. Since then he has had eight attacks, the Dr. says he can live very much longer, and does not be confined to bed at any time. Thus one after another leaves us. I almost forgot to write that I had heard from Emily through Father indirectly. Mrs Heathman was in Bethlehem and E— and her mother came there on a visit. Here Father thought they would visit B— before they returned but I almost seen there is no appearance they have changed their plans. Hoping to hear from you the earliest opportunity I remain your friend

A. H. Walker

Augusta Me.

North Bangor, April 27, 1864.

Apr. 27/64

Please accept this little token of my own Love.

Dear Nettie

I cannot help telling you how very welcome your letter was to me. I had looked for it for a long time, indeed I do not remember when I wrote last. It had been so long since a letter has been since I began to write that I feared you or some of your family might be sick. In regard to your thinking my Photograph not looking like one, I cannot have forgotten what I have promised or since you saw one. My friends all say that it is good. Since I last wrote you how I passed since we met, and

when I shall be ever see each
other again. No question about this
arrest remains unanswered.
Now as to Emilie. He came
into Bonnetable as I write
you, but did not call on
me. He must have been with
in six miles of me. How
do you not think this was pretty
cool? He had some business
with my brother in Concord,
consequently was at his house.
He and her mother returned
very soon after to Canada.
If he had sent one word of
remembrance to me I should
not have thought so strange.
Do you see me must give
our once dear friend Emilie
up. It does seem rather hard
after I made a pleasant acquaint-
ance as has existed between
friendship is uncertain after

but in thinking this matter over I have one thing to thank God for it is that our friendship has continued so long, so many precious letters have been exchanged, precious to me in these years of sorrow, and loneliness, Funerals are all around us, yet we have not been blessed with one. We are favoured with one of the best of Ministers His Sermons are to one the very "bread of life" yet by the most of our people they are all unheeded. My earnest prayer to God is that they may be good seed sown by the way-side, and spring up and bear "a hundred fold" I have ever felt the importance of prayer yet I never felt it so precious to my own soul as for a few weeks since. The past winter has been a very

pleasant without as much snow as usual, but plenty of good sleighing. Spring is rather earlier than usual with us. Though we not had many very warm days.

I have not been out of town since I came home in Nov. For a month last I have been at Father Walkers the most of the time. He is very sick. - It is five months since he has confined to his bed. I don't know what has kept him alive these months.

I am a little lonely at times, living as it were shut out from all society. I have only a few associates. During the winter and Spring Brother Augustus Walker's wife has been at Fathers Walkers, also my husbands youngest brother, so I have seen them often, and it has relieved

the morning of my time down
to do. I often ask myself what
I should do if I could not
read the bible and hold sweet
communion with God. For
these years of sadness he has been
my hope and trust. How these
years have gone so more to be
seen, yet sweet associations will
often return, the happiest days
are linked over again.
Can speak of your plants, and as
I read I thought how much I
would like to step in and
help you transplant some of
them. I have a few plants, that
are in a growing condition.
and budded. My oleander
is in flower now. Jack frost
made sad work with many
of them in Feb. Was it not
sad often I had got them so
near through winter. I had a

fine Calla just ready to bloom,
and a very fat plant-Tin, but
Santa could not pass by without
tapping his icy fingers upon it.
It is now trying to make up
for lost time and I fancy
that I may get as flower before
many weeks. Give Willie and
your children, and my plants,
I should do much like
to see you in your own home
with your loved ones about
you. This time will remember
mine to enjoy. Though I have
ever felt as faint-hearted that
I might do so sometime.
I have made out a long letter
written much to it.
Pray this bring a prompt and
answer. Please accept the love
of your old friend

Augusta.

North Barnstead July 15.
1864.

My dear Nettie

I can hardly express my gratitude, since your last kind, & truly welcome letter came. I dread to open & answer it, without any delay, but the circumstances compelled me to delay, while the better feelings of my heart dictated prompt. Your letters are not at hand so I may not be able to answer it in full. I am now at Father Watkins. We buried this morning after a long illness, seven and half months he was confined to his bed. Death is this world is the time only sin & sorrow and trials. Yesterday was the anniversary of dear William's death. In

a letter received from Sister
Martha Ide says, "one year in
Heaven Laffy." Thought. No time
on earth can be compared with
those Laffy years in Heaven.
I want to visit my Lands
one back again, for better for
one to live in this wicked world
without his precious love, and
dear companionship
Cheering thought that there
is a Laffy rest beyond, a better
Lands where Gods redeemed
may dwell, with holy angels, and
Him "just made perfect."
Amid all the darkness of this
life we may rejoice that
there is a Prayer hearing God.
How precious is the privilege to
go to Him as a friend as He
sees the secret recesses of our heart.
We can have constant dwelling
in Him, but how many we may

I am this friendless & do not know
I fear at times be my natural
organ and Annie Long. I have
been fed by his servants and if
I am obliged to live without them
I must endeavor to live as
Submissive Unit.
Can ask for any Father Horace,
He is in better health than at
usual, remains unmarried.
His home with aunt he prefers
Lonely as that Genius has
graduated. Use has known in
his family for years.
Can also ask if he is a Christian
I trust he is. Inside divinity
... Nearly as every one adopts
the Christ I could live,
The little letter I sent
I am so happy to know you re-
ceived. It is a great relief
to one if I am able to do any
little thing for Christ.

as friends. I do much enjoy doing some little things for Martha and the children. I spent a number of weeks with her helping part time for a future event. She has been home this summer with a beautiful baby. Just as good as can be.

How much I should enjoy seeing you and your family. I look at your photograph very often and wish it was yourself instead. I have written perhaps a better and better letter, I could not very well help it any more yesterday was the most eventful day to me since I was a little age-dearing father Walker's offering. I went to Pocatello via Eden and dined there with dear old friends and [illegible] mate. Rosa Lee I learned of many of the Gilmanton set-backs. Her husband was John Lyon

I think the straight line between Gibsonton and Ellenton runs thro Miss Lizzie Davis's. She has been spending a week with her sister Mrs Willey visiting for a few years. Gen Willey is dead you may know. Jacob is married and lives living with his father at the time they were at Mr L's. Mrs W. said he had one of the most beautiful children she ever saw. Our friend Emilie, is not as friendly to either of us now. I fear I have not written you Please write the earliest opportunity, and excuse this badly written letter for I am [illegible] Camping. Accept as large share of love from your absent friend

Augusta.

five weeks Sunday. I spend as
few weeks with my brother Hor-
ace. He has kept house ever since
the death of his wife having
been so very fortunate as to
keep one girl who made them
into his home with him for
years. He has never married,
and I do not know that he
has any such intentions.
My brother is now absent and has
been for two weeks, but returns to
morrow. These two weeks have
been rather lonely for me, living
as one as in the house but myself
and the girl. This Thanksgiving day
is not such a joyful one to me
as to many, but then it is as such
one to one, and has been the
changes and so do not to me, that
I like best to have the days so
quietly as it were. We have only
gathering, now, the scattered skin

has been so many times denied.
This morning I took a little church
time, then went to writing and
all alone too. I listened to a
very good sermon from the pastor
of the "South Church". It was a day
which ought greatly to influence
the minister to study to think him
as very good man. It is pleasant
to one to go to the house of prayer
and to see it, I have been about
four years church only one day since
since I came here, and then
it was so raining that I thought
best to stay within doors.
These religious privileges I do
not have at home, for this reason
one I never better know to prize
them. I am not as very evident
lover of Portsmouth, indeed
I never have, though there
are some pleasant people here
among my friends here is Mrs

Edinburgh. With her we made her visits
I am most intimate - Can
you recollect her name as
one who has written largely for
the "Messenger" and "Children's Hour"
and to whom your books are known
here. I see from your letter
you are almost done heads as long
I can form of it - No wonder you
could not afford time to cor-
rect it as friends do for among
us any self. Whenever as long time
I can be with you I will try to be-
very circumscribed - I can only ex-
cuse you on the ground of
your numerous family cares
For myself I have no such ex-
cuses and to spare myself the
reproach of so negligent correspond-
ent I have to reply immediately
I have plenty of good books to sell
cheaply. Houses rise on London
at such a time as good buildings -

I have been so very busy sewing for him, and also getting my own wardrobe ready for winter that I have had to let my eyes & head catch glimpses of the books I have been reading "The Hawaiian Islands" by Dr Andrews. also "The Patagonians and the Rapa Islanders" by Rev A. T. Pierson Chaplain of 2d Mass Regt. Into both of these books I am deeply interested. Besides my brother's books there is a library kept in the house called the "christian Workers Club".

Isn't it there are so many good books that I do not feel myself that I should be able to read that as many as I want, as fractions of them, I am not sure engagements in any of many books of

any account. Have knitted some little flannel shirts for little Harold as baby. also some little stockings. She has her numerous family ones to feel happy to be able to celebrate her as little. She is now listless her only sister died the 14th of this month.

My husbands family have seen so many changes within a few years- Father & Brother, six out of nine children have gone to that "better land", My plans for the winter are now very indefinite, Should you find time to write soon please direct- 21 Care Harriet Tibbits Esqr Portsmouth. Last evening I was invited out to tea. And met one of the Gilmanton Ladies. She was not there when either of us were there last- She knew many that we knew. It was to one a real treat to meet one of that dear family of Gilmantons, Welcome be remembered engaged in discussing old events that are quite lost and forgot to the rest of the company. Time flies so I must say good night

Write soon and love from Augusta

Augusta Ga.

Barnsdale Co, Apr 8, 1865

Dear Sir

I am not sure
if you can
just now
but I
can
I am not sure
you can
just now
but I
can

I am not sure
you can
just now
but I
can

I am not sure
you can
just now
but I
can

again. They all gave me a cordial welcome.

I was so glad to see and hear a minister again. Sunday I listened to sermons with more interest than ever before. I had a pleasant visit this winter in Portsmouth, Roxbury, Cambridge, East Hingham, Dorchester and Roxbury. I had one, made so by the death of a very lovely child of my sister, Mrs. Moore, for a little while before my husband's eldest sister had died. Here, for the first time, I truly felt that death had come very near us as it had done many times before. My husband's family are nearly all gone, only two brothers and one sister are left of nine children. Father

are now in the Spirit-world.
One of the brothers is in the army,
& enlisting from there most three
years, and he is not seen him
for a longer time than that.
My brother is in Portland
in-law with Horace Hoskins
is lonely yet since he has
been married again, and he
likes either brother or I like
with him. Now you have your
eight little one, that a family
to care for and to think about,
I am I mean but-three, that
is one left-you are remembered
in prayer. Give my christian
regards for the dear departed
ones to be left within Accept
for self. Our dear ones be early
train from us how we miss the
influence in their sweet Comforter
and how ardently we desire
to have them with us to talk

the dark and tangled path
ways of our every day life
Monday eve 10.

My mind goes back
to night & the same subject
which I was writing about
Saturday eve. Oh why must we
dear ones taken from us why
only answer is to draw one
a sinful erring one nearer
to my Saviour. I pray sometimes
that my friends do not
care to have one left of my
letters with that which is
most in my thoughts - But could
better perhaps if I could for-
get the past or put it by
& hide them so deep within my
own heart that no one could
learn aught of it. But this
is not my nature. I cannot
live as though as friends had
never lived. I have been think

how long it has been since
our last pleasant meeting in
Dunbarton. I long for our
dear mother's home.
I wonder if we shall ever
see each other again.
I have indulged as I sit
& write that I might hear it
you, but seriously I fear that
it is only as "air castles" Helene
will never come to see me & my
feet I fully able to meet her
an entrance. We are all that
are left of that old Gilmanton
band once so happy, little
thought we dream what
was in store for us.
I think of Emilie only with
regret. She is little else but
a clean frame or [illegible],
My time is occupied very much

as usual. Glad enough to
hear one from Edinburgh. How
I wish I could enjoy Emily
Dear's company & talk a
little of old times.

I have not done much
of late & much recently. The
high prices of provisions have
made them quite out of my
reach. While in Portsmouth
I had as fine chowder and
oysters as ever
you - I did do much en-
joy the religious privileges
there that - It has made it
hard to wean them
from home - & I trust Heaven
to engage me all your labours
& to assist to do it.

Please write just as soon
as you can. With along first
Love to Emily & Kearsley &
Gertrude, Caroline & Friends

Augusta

North Bamstead July 21, 1865.

Registered
Feb 12, 1866

My dear Nettie

Your little short note has been received and perused long enough and often since the sunset hours of this day in consuming my friends, Your with expense my seeming silence when I tell you I am more occupied with family cares this summer than ever. My mother remained six weeks, ten months then came home and was very soon taken sick with as slow Lung fever - She is now quite well and last week on Tuesday she went to Portsmouth again with my brother who is home for a night. His housekeeper has gone to "Paw Seatic" for a few weeks stay and was to only

he felt that Father and I might stay with him awhile. I did the most of my time accepted and not with fancy work either, but his house work, and making butter and cheese, in the hot Summer days. Nothing enjoying it though there is much that is hard about it. We are having such beautiful Indian Summer days, so clear so cool, not as yet one rainy smoky day. Indeed I never remember so delightful an Indian Summer as this Farmers say it's not quite warm enough for hog killing, but everything is fine as growing stock. I was very glad to see your husband in photograph. The one I sent you as little as expected. I wondered if ever I asked you to send it. Since you really thought of sending the children, well I should

most happy to see them or any-
thing which is in any way connected
with my friends Nettie.
I wonder if you ever think of
Emilie. I do sometimes, but am
none the wiser for my thoughts-
The books you write about I have
read, the "Diary" while in P-
last winter, the "Cottage family" have
just been reading, also "Early Dawn"
by the same Lady. Mac Combe brought them
home this spring. Weather you
speak about I have never seen.
(or rather I have while at P- "Legacy of
Cain" I like the "Diary" better
all I have read of these books.
Mac Can is yet our minister, I feel
that every year will be the last
one he will be able to keep him, his
is only "Stated Supply". Joe thinks
he has never done any good here-
A Catholic boy. But-tied up he will

more goods than he thought for
He is a quiet unassuming man
and as little inclined to Lectu
on the dark side - I can but
feel there are many with not be
lost as on this occasion. We may
in a it as Cattle on the Marvest will
come. My husbands brother like his
been connected with army as
Ass Surgeon, and Surgeon for nearly
three years he resigned his fath
this charge, and is now in New Englan
going to Virginia I have not seen him
I do hope he will for a very long time.
How long it has been since we met,
shall we ever see each other face
to face again? You are so much
accomplished with your family cares
and the precious ones God has given
you that you find less time to think
of absent ones. Now please engrave me another
of your good letters if it is as long as you find
time to do so. With the love of your friend
Augusta M. W.

I know you feel it so some it
to tell you what we have been doing to
to pick wood and has been for a number of days
you know that she had a bad cold when you went
away and at most every day she
has she will be better soon Uncle Jack has been
over to the Village carried three bush of corn over
and a half of wheat also that log that was here
at the door he gets along nicely I do not see but
things go on just as well as if you were here. he
seems interested and very carefull Father says
that he will save at the barn $10. a month
to what some boys would I think that we were
lucky to get him and I guess that he finds it to
be a good home for him you do not need to
worry about home at all for every want is supplied
only I feel lonesome but no more so than
I expected to I do keep trying not to be lonesome but
I cannot help it when I wake up in the night and
lay awake and think that night Dad died
died I was at times and I feel awful sometimes
think about you I feel tonight that you were
watching over me to thus shows us the uncertainty
of life how important that we should be ready
when the summons comes.

My Dear Husband wont you write to me and
what your feelings have been since you went from home
it is time for me to go to bed good night

[illegible] after 9 o'clock has come and I am
[illegible] get to bed. So as soon as bed time comes
and we can get into bed I have company enough
for all the children sleep with me they are a com-
forting little flock wish you was here to-night to
see how pretty they look laying side by side I said
that I wished that you was here I had not ought to
allow myself to say so for I think that it is right
and best for you to go to Ill- this winter notwith
standing it is so hard for me to live without you
[illegible] I get mad after the cold she has that
same kinds across the stomach that you had last
with her also very tasty, not much appetite
I hope that she will be better in a few days as I wish
that I knew where you are this morning good night.

Sabbath day. Again I take my pen to try to
write to you a little. Your Mother is considerable better
this morning she has not been so unwell since I
have been here as she has been the past week
Uncle Charlie went over to Mr Mason's yesterday and
got a couple boards and some slabs we have got some
of the wheat ground it does very well by mixing it
with it. Your articles that you sent from
Bangor were all good. There is but a little snow
yet but enough to cover the ground, in the road
out-north side in sleighs mostly. You need not
worry any about home for we get along very well
Uncle Charlie is interested and does all things well
I guess. Mr Livermore got $10. had a hard time
when he went to Bangor broke down 2 times lamed his horse &

[illegible] Dennis came and brought Georgie's letter and told me that I was sick, I felt that I ought to write but before now I have not felt like it. I am sorry that you would not if you was well. Did Mr G say anything about regretting that he started. I don't [illegible] strange that he will not say about his family but I say those that I thought I should be [illegible] I was aware that he was so near his end. You must not say I am sick when Mr G was sick. I got your good and long letter I would say I am sick and worse and sleight after me for which It did feel very thankful with I could have a long letter every week but will be content if I can get one once in two weeks with I could know when you are to day I shall not feel so anxious about you and know that you are safe at [illegible] Mr G- funeral was a very solemn one to us those It [illegible] any one feeling if they had any Elder Talbot talked well to them. they did not appear to feel very bad but you know that we cannot always tell what our feelings are by their appearance. Mr G- was sick before he left Utah I have heard a number times [illegible] commenced a journey did not last [illegible] says that he heard that some felt quite displeased they want Hawkins You will not forget to write to Samuel Conner? I want you to make it a point to write to me often won't you? From your ever affection [illegible]

to

Dec 25 1853.

My dear Husband

I wish you many christmas,
and I do know of anything that would make me
more merry than a letter from my dear husband
but I shall expect one tomorrow night without it
will How much I do want to hear from you I
have not heared a word from you since you left
Va inville and it seems a very long time.
Notwithstanding my cares and all that I have to take
my time I do not forget my Companion the one
with whom I have chosen to share with me all the
joys and cares which this life is heir too

Well Pa I came home from visiting to night
a letter from you mailed the 19th it has been a long
time getting here I shall expect another before
long Mr Hodgkins has been down here he might
to see if he could get the oxen to haul his wood
do you know that he has bought a wood lot this cool
Mr Eaton of Luther by the way the Rickers did not
stop a stick went into the woods for damed finally
we have not had any snow to haul — it has been
very bad going last Friday it snowed Saturday it
snowed enough so that it is good sleighing to day
what we shall do about wood we do not yet know
if the Hodgkins has them he will let George come and

chop for us. Mr Sargent says that he will
come and chop so as to get the oxen to haul his wood
Mr Livermore did when he was here Sunday to help
him. He says that he would like to get the oxen and
would haul wood to pay. he said that he could haul
wood from where he is hauling cheaper than we could
get that little wood that is on the intervale but I guess
that between Uncle Mark Mr Livermore Mr Sargent and
Samuel we shall be provided for. You must not worry
about us for we get along very well James is here he
is a good boy he chops all of the wood that we want
to burn and has got considerable of a little pile under
the shed he manages very well with Charlie Charlie
goes to school and learns very well I guess
I guess that I had better say good night for it is getting
late with a kiss and a tear.
Monday evening. Here I am in the kitchen I suppose
that you can see just how I look can't you
Well I suppose that you have not yet known that
Nelly has got the spavin so Samuel has sold her
to Mr Burnap for 75$ or rather bought Mr B's oxen
for 110$ & sold Nelly, and your oxen for 150$ and Burnap
pays him 40$ to boot. We have just got the oxen
shod Mr Durgin shod them for we could not use
them any without, and we have not used them any
since until to day and Mr Burnap came and got

them to night- and left his here for Samuel.
I expect Samuel up here to night or in the morning
then we shall conclude what to do about wood
I am glad that the open are sold for I suppose
that now is the best time to sell them and it makes
less care for Uncle Mark also if we kept them here thes
winter this one would want them to get up a little
wood and that one would want them &c= but I heard
to day that Braden had sent to Samuel that he
wanted them in the woods. when I saw Sam last-
he did not know weather he should want them or not
but you see that he has swaped with the Burnips
and got a pare that suits him better I suppose
Haven't I made a long story about the open but-
I supposid that you would like tho hear the whole
story. Joseph Sargent has got home. Ithiel Nason
sails for California sept wednesday goes with
John Currur a new start I guess. I forgot to say
that Samuel had bought Father house payed
11 C $. Uncle Mark says that he guesses that father is
a waiting to hear from you. he only guesses it-
Stephen is in the Provincies John is a coming home
in January. Col Chase is very sick the man that
bought your hay. There are a number sick in this
town and vicinity with the Typhus fever there is a
man at the tavern very sick he started to go into the woods
good night- from your sincere wife

[illegible] I was again about to [illegible]
[illegible] I thought of you much
to day. It has been one of my gloomy days
[illegible] had no kind companion to comfort
me. Thanks to [illegible] I do feel very lonely
without you but [illegible] than I expected to
as I know of I have every thing about me to make
me comfortable and happy. Mrs. Mark is very kind
and does every thing for me that I want done
but still I am alone. There aint I selfish to say
that I am alone so soon. I have got three darlin
little children with me I might say that you
are alone. How I do want to know what you are a
doing how you like the country &c &c Your Mother is
up to Brownville now. Harriet has not been here to
day as I expected it has snowed and blowed all day.
30th I now sit down to write a little about our transactions for the last two or three days well it has snowed
and blowed so hard it has not it has been very cold
consequently we have not got any wood up yet
but we are a going to get a little to morrow I suppose
that Dr. Mark will [illegible] the first of the week and the
best way to get our wood for this winter will be to buy it. I
also Learn he called here to day I asked him how much he
would ask us a cord he said 8 shillings that would be
cheaper than to higher us to chop and often times you
understand don't you that the reason that we have not
got any wood before is because we have not had any
sledding until this week and it has been so stormy
that no one wanted to work. Harriet has not been over here
yet I suppose that he went to Bangor did not come be-
cause it was so stormy Father was here last night he said
that if you send for him that he should go — when you see
John has got home was up here to day he and Uncle Hart
the colt into sled she went well Uncle Hart wanted him
to take him home and drive him about a little before he
tried to do any thing with him Uncle is not able to do a
great deal but I guess that he thinks that he works hard
He has got the wheat stuff all thrashed there was only
3 bus of it he has been thrashing the oats this week I told
him that he must not work so steady he [illegible]
Uncle Leonard and has old Lame with he cannot
[illegible] but he is very faithful [illegible] to be interested
for you he calculates economically I think

Savoie Lemmon

[illegible] a happy New year and I wish that [illegible] know where you are and what you are doing this evening I have thought of you much to day I feel that you must feel lonely sometimes as well as I— the six months will be a long time to you as well as to me but it will soon pass I went up stairs to see if I could see Uncle Mark coming home from outing and it made me feel kinder to see him and sad for it made me think how many times I have looked out to see if I could not see my dear Charles a coming— but now I cannot see your It is hard for me to live week after week and not see your face come into the door once But I try to bear it cheerfully the time will soon wear away. It is not as it would be if I had no Heavenly Father to go to— then I can cast all that is near and dear to me. My Dear Charles— the seat of my affections how my heart bleeds for you— I cannot give it up to you and I shall yet bow around the Family altar there have been my feelings for more than a year and they do not weaken but grow stronger

God can bless us—

31st It is Saturday evening I wonder that I take evening after all I have gone to bed the week for then I have nothing to do but think of you I begin to feel that it is time for me to hear from you How long it takes to get a letter from PH it makes one feel that we are far apart if it were not for the thought that I think it will be to you I do not think I could be willing to stay here so long. But I feel that I am almost wicked for how much I have to be thankful for that the life of my dear Charles is spared I think that I do feel in some degree a heart of thankfulness I would like to know about that cough how it is now if by writing to PH you can get word of that I shall be happy for I think that the cough that you had last winter was of no serious affair you will be very careful and not

Charlie & Jessie are good little boys they talk about Father most every day if any thing new takes place they will say to me you will write it to Father won't you The other day he wanted me to write to father that he was not going to school to day They are good children but they need their Father to help govern them I sometimes have my hands full to take care of them all especially when any one is sick but I get along very well Little Mary is a better girl than she was when you went away does not cry so much and is more loving when Charlie is out doors she will look out and say Yarlie I tell her to say Father but I suppose she will forget Father before he comes home again if they are all well while you are gone

what a blessing it will be to see it Con remember Mr Blaisdells little girl dont you it is dead died yesterday had Typhus and Pneumisy fever they will feel its death very much Uncle & the Sargent have been getting wood over east to day the not know how much more they can get for we do not know when it will want the pen

X I shall write to Uncle Sumner & Aunt Mary & Aunt Lucy & Uncle Wiggin & all the rest of our friends as soon as I can get time & shall write to Father & Mother

Dear Sister

I have received a letter from you this night and do not know how to feel, and hardly what to think but I think that you have [illegible] all through your journey and I do think that it will be a lasting benefit to you and not only to you but I calculate to the benefitted too. I want you to feel when that man with the buggy wagon overtook you and you could [illegible] directly to Dawson I guess that you was pleased to see Mrs Greenleaf too — to see a face that one has seen before when one has been among strangers so long must be charming I should imagine. —

I keep thinking how happy you & Isaac, Mother and baby and all — were that Sunday talking and chatting and I almost wish that I were there with you

Do you think that that country is a better one than this on the whole? or can't you tell without staying a year.

I have sent to Franklin Hart to know if he will come here next summer I thought that I would be in season so as to be sure to get some good man in season —

I got a letter from Ann Frost Friday she wrote it since you was there — she said that she thought that you ought to have had a new suit of clothes thought = but you know that she does not consider that your money is not so plenty as hers I have worried some about your linen how did you make out — do you find that your clothes are good enough or not. I shall calculate to have a letter ready to send to you as soon as I receive one for instance — I got one from you to night and shall send this to the office to morrow morning. I shall expect a letter from you about once in two weeks and I shall calculate to write as often

How glad Isaac was to see you wasent he what did he do first shake hands or what =

Give my love to Mother and Isaac tell Mother that I want her to write to me often all about herself and baby and Isaac and you. I shall want to know more than — I can know about you. I shall want to know when and how you live what you are doing how you like and every thing. [illegible]

I guess that you will be [illegible] pleased and sorry to find this all out / write to me often Good Night

I should like to write to you all night but guess that I must

From Your Sincere and ever Affectionate Companion

Alvina

must I not I suppose I must write

Good night again

Thanks very much for letter that we have received and do not know how [illegible] and hope it may be for your benefit I think that you have [illegible] all through your journey and I do think that it will be a lasting benefit to you and not only to you but I calculate to the benefitted too. I want you to feel when that man with the buggy wagon overtook you and you could [illegible] directly to Dawson I guess that you was pleased to see Mrs Greenleaf too — to see a face that one has seen before when one has been among strangers so long must be charming I should imagine. —

I keep thinking how happy you & Isaac, Mother and baby and all — were that Sunday talking and chatting and I almost wish that I were there with you

Do you think that that country is a better one than this on the whole? or can't you tell without staying a year.

I have sent to Franklin Hart to know if he will come here next summer I thought that I would be in season so as to be sure to get some good man in season —

I got a letter from Ann Frost Friday she wrote it since you was there — she said that she thought that you ought to have had a new suit of clothes thought = but you know that she does not consider that your money is not so plenty as hers I have worried some about your linen how did you make out — do you find that your clothes are good enough or not. I shall calculate to have a letter ready to send to you as soon as I receive one for instance — I got one from you to night and shall send this to the office to morrow morning. I shall expect a letter from you about once in two weeks and I shall calculate to write as often

How glad Isaac was to see you wasent he what did he do first shake hands or what =

Give my love to Mother and Isaac tell Mother that I want her to write to me often all about herself and baby and Isaac and you. I shall want to know more than — I can know about you. I shall want to know when and how you live what you are doing how you like and every thing. [illegible]

I guess that you will be [illegible] pleased and sorry to find this all out / write to me often Good Night

I should like to write to you all night but guess that I must

From Your Sincere and ever Affectionate Companion

Alvina

must I not I suppose I must write

Good night again

To Charles H. Rich

June 3 1854

My Dear Charles

It is late time but I feel that I cannot go to bed without writing a word to you John & Mary and Henrietta have been up here this evening—came with a young colt— I have enjoyed their visit much but I have thought of you all of the evening we parched some corn when we were parching Mary says we want Charles here—those were my feelings still I am glad that you are in Ill— for I feel that the journey will do you good. but it is very hard for me to live without you— I have felt this evening that if you was here that I should be happy.

Good Night— I must go to bed alone Albina [illegible] last man he wanted to know how long he should keep the colt— I told him that I did not know—he might keep him until I heared from you Uncle Mark says that John is a very good hand to manage a colt— He also says that if he was his that he should rather he would need what he will use him than not— and they will keep him well and take good care of him &c John has engaged to come after me winter. I want to go to meeting I do not think that Uncle would use him any if he was sure Uncle is rather clumsy you know with what you want done about it— as soon as you can

Uncle has had his old horse here since and has got him here now he can't find any one to buy him he said the other day when I asked him how long he was a going to keep him here that he told you that if he could not sell him that he should have to have him here some He is in hopes to sell him before long

I have hinted to him that you did not want the horse here I guessed but you know that it is difficult for me to say much I think that he is not very well contented up here so I have to try as hard as I can to make him so You know what is best to do and say and if you have anything to say you know that you can write it and I want you to I do not expect that we can get along as we should if you were at home But I mean to try to do as well as I can and let it go at that I can't do anything more can I?

You must not worry any about us for we do get along on the whole very well enjoy yourself as well as you can and bring a lot of it home Samuels Oren have not given yet he and Mrs S got wood for us yesterday to day Mrs S has them I expect Samuel will send a man after them soon day before yesterday Uncle went over to the Webb barn and got about 1/2 ton of hay that Samuel did not get pressed because it got wet it is just as good for the sheep I suppose that he will not ask any thing for it because his cows have been here so long but you know that it will come out right I shall write again as soon as I receive a letter from you Affectionately

Jan 16th
I have just got a
letter from Pa
Ma and
Mattie and
Mattie this after-
noon I would
if I saw plain
I am to hear
from you
I am a going
to send this
Thursday
Jan

Jan 5. 1854.

It is Sabbath evening. Hen & sit alone in the kitchen the children have all gone to bed Pa has just gone I asked him if he would read and pray and he did I felt it to be a privilage to have him. I have been to meeting today Father came after me I took Charlie and left the rest I have not been but once before since Mr Gilmans funeral since you went away I do not feel like going much and I can't if I did. Mr Pollett preached very well there was no singing this forenoon Mary & Harriet were both sick you know M- is apt to be sick and H- has been unwell for some time with a cold it has now settled in her neck or something is the matter with her neck it is swelled on one side and is very sore Mr Wetherby is likely to fail out about his singing school & guess he has but few attendents The Universalists got up a school for Mr Hawkins he being more popular & suppose has the most scholars There was no one to sing this afternoon but Wetherby & Pat and Mary Peterman I spoke with Pat after meeting he said that he wished that you was here to help sing

Mr Smith Charles has been sick with a cold for more than a week has had the Doc has not been very sick but something like a slow fever There have been a good many sick about with very bad colds Charlie and Josie have been quite unwell but are now getting better I think I miss you about helping to take care of them might especially when they

are not very well. One or the other of them will want some thing every little while you know but the taking care of them is not so much as the anxiety you know if they should be sick it would be very hard for me but I have kind friends all about me if I should need any assistance I shall have it I often think how thankful I ought to be that my health is so good I have not been so strong and able to work for more than a year as I now do

Your Mother came home last Thursday Mr Rider brought her and went to Bangor with Samuel yesterday if she could have been contented and happy here with me I should liked to have had her stay but you know that she enjoys herself better at Bangor with Lucy She talked hard to Uncle Mark for having his horse here I was very sorry that she did for she did not do any good by it and she hurt his feelings I think that Uncle is perfectly honest and will be willing to pay all it is worth to keep him Uncle told me the other day that if he could not sell him that he should be sorry that he came over here for he felt that he ought to do something with him to make him pay his keeping.

I think that Uncle is sincere and honest and does the very best that he can for you and feels interested for you I do not know what he can do he has got this old horse and can't sell him what can he do For any part if he cannot do any better I feel willing to have him keep him here

Uncle feels kinder bad I know but does not say much When your mother was talking to him he said not a word but she hurt his feelings I think that she did not do just right

I lent the buffalo to Printiss and she blamed me very much Printiss is very kind to me and I felt that I should like to accommodate him as I could

Monday evening after nine

Uncle has been up to Mr Sweetsers after a load of wood to day if we go up there after it he lets us have it for 1.00$ pr cord we are a going to have two cords and I guess that will last till march with what we have got the wood that they got over east is very good Samuels often are a going away this week

Mr Sargent and Lyman Rumm have been down here this evening for the first time since Lyman began his school it is a very cold night the coldest that we have had this winter I almost feel that I should like to live in a warmer country But I suppose that if we had not cold weather we should have something else so it is about right all round wish I could know what you are doing and how you feel this evening are you tired? have you been to work hard to day? dont you almost wish that you was here sitting by this warm fire with me I do but you cannot be here and there too and I suppose that it is best that you should be there dont you think so!

It is very hard for me to live here without you and it grows harder there is not near the enjoyment in any thing when I alone enjoy it I want you to share with me my joys and sorrows

Good Night I must go to bed to our children Its cold good night

Sunday evening It has been a very cold day and it is very cold this evening I am sitting in the Sitting room have got a good warm fire all have gone to bed but I and it is not yet nine I am a going to sit in here evenings it is so much pleasenter and it takes not much more wood It does not smoke since you have lined round the funnel Uncle says that he thinks that we have got wood enough to last till warm weather and I guess that we have we have bought of Mr Sweetsers two cords for which I pay 2.00$ in money That is all we shall have to pay out for wood We get along very well but I do feel lonesome do you think that you shall stay till the first of June! Had you better? It seems to me that I cannot have you stay so long but you will of course do as you think best I do not much expect that we can get Franklin Hart John Kittridge has been to see him for me he said that he could not unless John Hart would stay at home but I do not know for certainly yet How high wages is it best to offer rather than not to get him. It is possible that we can get Elbridge Rider but doubtful I suppose

The childrens colds are some better Josie is just unwell enough to be cross Charlie is a real driving boy he begins to need a Father to manage him I shall be glad when you get home it is a great care for me to take the whole care of them day and night Jane is quite a trial to my patience now she goes to school I think that we had not better keep her next summer I shall not have more work to do than I can do myself if I am as well as I am now and she will want a good deal laid out for her by that time it will cost more to clothe her next summer than it will me I believe that I shall wish to keep that I shall not need her next summer had I better not?

Wednesday evening most nine o'clock but I must write a word before I go to bed It has not been so cold to day as it has been for a few days passed Uncle has gone down to the village to night when he comes back I do hope he will bring a letter from you Samuel has been here to day he does not stay here ask Aleck last winter it is more convenient for him to stay at the village on account of his business

Mrs Hartwell is dead was not confined to her bed but a few days how fast we are all dropping into our graves we know not how soon our turn will come how important that we should be ready I do not know what is to be done with her children

Thursday morning

It has been thawing and kinder raining today. You do not know how much I do miss you I sometimes feel that I cannot have you stay so long. It is the greatest piece of selfishness that ever I had anything to do with. to have you gone so long away there and I suppose that it is to you But I suppose that in any you are there that you had better stay as long as it is best to stay Mr Linsmore has been to Bangor this week brought the molasses and fifty bbl of flour - I am picking over those beans If I pick them over I must will give 2.00 ℔ to bushel It is something of a job but it will pay I think - Uncle has been winnowing oats today - Uncle came home and brought no letter - how I do want to hear from you - I can hardly wait - I want to know how you like what you are doing - if you are well and a thousand other things The pump at the house has not been useable for three or four weeks there is a leak below the lower boy because there is water above the upper but we cannot bring water. Uncle got Thob Bangor Ju- to make a boy for which he asked 6 cts - as soon as it comes a little warmer Prentice - is a going to do if he can fix it - you know that it is bad work to do in cold weather - But the pump at the barn has failed to day the gutterpurchin string [illegible] call it - I will not go round we do not know what to do if we can get any one to fix it we shall but we are not so bad off as some for we have got a brook and a river to go to - when all these things happen here and there it worries me some but I mean to try to make the best of it

I expected to have a good deal of care this winter while you are gone Charlie has not been to school for some days because of the cold weather and his cold - but his cold is getting well - he likes to go

What shall I say more guess that it had better be good night but it is rather unwillingly that I say so good night

I can not go to bed and feel that my work is done without writing a little to you whether I have anything to say or not I am most tired to go to bed most early and it gives me a good whil to sit alone - and write to you and I enjoy it I sometimes think how happy I should be if Charlie was here I keep fire in the sitting room every evening - have got my bed turned round so I can warm my bedroom a little it is much pleasanter sitting in here evenings than it is to be all huddled up in the kitchen - Samuel has been up here this afternoon he came up to go in the woods but we have had so much of a thaw that he can not go in to-morrow so he is a going to Bangor tomorrow and coming up Monday to go Sam has rather hard time getting supplies in to the woods this winter it was a long time before we had any snow and when it did come it came all in a pile - and now a thaw Uncle has been picking over potatoes to day we potatoes will hardly we have got some corn ground on the cob they have got a new stove down to the village The children have all been very good to day little Mary is a good girl now a days she is real lovering I know that she would love her father if he was here - Good Night from your Hannah got no letter yet

Saturday morning Here I sit all alone and think about you and I suppose you are thinking about - how are you not? I have been thinking while sitting here alone how good God is to me why is it that I am thus blessed it seems to me that I have more than my part of blessings x

x one of the blessings I have is health and strength to work I wish that you could have some of it

Jan 22, 1854

My Dear Sister

I have just written a letter to your brother Tom & suppose that she will have one, but expect that I must begin one to you notwithstanding it is after nine o'clock and I must go to bed. Jennie has stopped and I am quite alone. Samuel came up from Lexington last night and left this morning. I was not glad to see him. He came again & must go back tomorrow. I thought it was a very cold night but it would be a very cold night as cold as any night we have had I should think. So I thought that it would be a good time to write a letter. I am sitting in the kitchen the children are all busy Charlie is sounding it is striking nine. Lizzie has got some cake we are all comfortable and happy. I think that we get along very well the greatest trouble we have is in water. If we are not cut off as we are last week we get it from the hydrant. It came in quite convenient during the freeze. We took that pipe & the hose in the cellar had all slipped together in just three places and tied them with a string so that they could not slip. It does not go very well now. I'm sorry that you got that pump it is a nuisance thing. After Father got that pump fixed he came to see us one day. But when he came it got the pump out of the [illegible] and it was not [illegible]

he would not [illegible] it for [illegible] the [illegible] was [illegible]
so much as 3 inches and the pipe [illegible]
I told him that he might do as he thought best - so he
[illegible] I said that I could get an iron pump
that would not freeze for 15 shillings - Samuel Furber
thought that we had better have one - and he is a
[illegible] so to Banes
[illegible] got most [illegible] nothing more to have
got the beans most all picked over I have done it most
all myself we are picking over the potatoes that
that are under the window are rotting
Last week I had two letters from you one that was
mailed at St Louis you sent it there by a teamster
How glad I am to hear from you it makes me feel
that I am not so much alone as I thought I was
Don't you sometimes feel lonsome down to De Soto among
so many different kinds of people or do you have so
much business to have time to be lonsome You do
not say how you like - perhaps you have not had
time to find out yet - I guess that this country is on the
whole as good as that don't you think so? Don't you think
that you should come home before planting time I guess
you had better had not you I don't suppose we can get
a man for less than 15 or 20 $ and then they would do
as you would I suppose - but you know that I do not
know how well you are doing there I guess I will
stay here myself somewhere if you would hire
I must get some time now Good morning

Monday eve- I do not know why it is, but I feel that I should like to keep writing to you all of the time if I had time. I would write to you every week but I do not know as I can afford the invelops are you not a good mind to laugh at me for such an excuse as that

I wrote to you in my last letter about Uncle having a lame wrist and not feeling very well contented here &c. Will he tried last week to get Mr Sargent to come down here and do the threshing out a little wood and James do the taking care of the barn but Mr Sargent did not want to or rather thought that he could not Uncle went home last Thursday to go to quarterly meeting I heard that he did not go it snowed I suppose that was the reason I supposed that he was coming back here Sunday night as usual it is now Monday night and he has not got back yet Prentiss is sick with the Measles perhaps that is the reason Perhaps he will come tomorrow if he should not come back again I think we could get along John Kittredge says that if I can not get any else to do the threshing he will do it and I can get Mr Sargent to cut wood at the door now and then a day and I think James and I can take care of the barn are you not willing to trust us? The gray colt is down to Fathers and I guess that they had better keep him as long as they want him Lorenzo said that he thought that it was best for him

it is for me to live without you but it is not any more so than I expected it would be when you went away.

to be used soon. This winter there will be hard
him say - I'll all winter and you [know] it gives an
accumulation to take him out so he does I shan't think
a good deal of him - he says that he will give you a hun-
dred dollars for him even father says he will give
10 - Father says it will make a good horse
Uncle Mark would not have broke him nor begun to
It is considerable after nine and my fire is getting low I
suppose I had better go to bed it is not quite so cold to-
night as it was last night. The children speak of you
as often now as they did when you first went away
Josie woke up the other morning and said "won't father
come to dinner mother" I told him no father won't come to-
him nor for a great while. Good Night - - - My dear C.

25th Dearest Charles It is a very cold night -
yesterday morning Murray stood at 30. below zero
and I should think that this morning was colder
than yesterday Samuel and Alma stayed here
last night went to Bangor today - there came up
here yesterday to see how we got along and he told
such a pitiful story about his own health and that of
his family - I thought - I would stay to get along without
him Patriss has got the measles and more of his
children have ever had them I think that if that
pump at the barn only would go well that we could
get along very well we have to turn the crank I should
think 30 or 40 times to get a pail full of water notwithstan-
ding we have just got it fixed Millet asked 1.25 $
for what work he has done and I shall have to get him
to put in the new pump when we get it - I expect we shall
get it this week I expected that he would ask a great
price - but I did not know what to do You do not
know how much I do miss you It is not so easy as one
might think - I think that you will come home before
it is time to begin spring work - and washing and
shearing time - I do not yet know when we can get a
good man to come here and as near as I can find out
wages will be very high - and supposing we could get a good
man the cost is very great for us

I have learned up a model by which I will be able to show that if I would any way it if I should take H. C. and Dave can show it-I shall try this—

Jan 29, 1854

[illegible]

[illegible] night-it is so cold that we have a great deal of cold weather this winter. for about a week it has been very cold & coal down cellar by night for it begins to [illegible] for you not glad to get rid of this cold weather — I am sad that you cannot come for you know you should-and then [illegible] will come & how glad I shall be for you to come & see the principle one is-that it will be much time for you to come home. but then I do not hardly allow myself to begin to think about you coming home for fear you will think it hard to stay. but I must you will-and I guess you will when you come home before that time if you — may

[illegible] this cold [illegible] and to do [illegible] and helping me about the things. I told him that if he would come back next fall, that I would not ask him to stay this winter but my boys should you would help him if he should [illegible] is a poor old man. It is cold to work for [illegible] to have all of the chores to do while it is so very cold but I think that after this cold spell is over we shall get along very well

when school is done we can get along nicely You had better write some encouraging words to James so as to make him contented and willing to do what there is to be done till you come home James thinks a good deal of what you say— Mr Millet has been here to put the new pump in but it runs down because there is a leak in the pipe somewhere John can fix it when he comes back Millet asked 2.00 for what he has done in all if you had been here you could have done it just as well as he I suppose but if you have been earning more it is just as well— I am thankful to get water once more I can assure you I have had to melt snow a long time it has made my work much harder

It is passed nine I suppose I had better say good night and go to bed= I should like to know where you are and what you are doing to night—

Dearest Charles It is Saturday evening

Charlie is sitting by my side and I am asking him what I shall say to Father— he says tell Father that "I am a very good boy"— I think that he means to be a good boy but it takes a lot of patience to get along with him— he is never still a minute— always doing something I sometimes feel afraid that he will loose and destroy most all of your books before you get back but he is a good boy the most of the time

After the children go to bed I will write again

What I can't tell— but I am very sure— flour is $10.25 per barrel I was a good deal of Indian meal 40 pounds cornish able Kiffin ears in harvesting since you left home

I have now got the children to bed Mary is in the cradle by my side James has gone to bed he goes early and gets up early is up most every morning before light- Jane is warming himself- We have not any of us been to meeting to day It has been quite a comfortable day the sun has shone very pleasent- I hope we shall not have much more severe cold weather as we have had -

I have thought of you much to day I have thought how happy we should be if you were with us I got your degarotype Josie says "it is my Paver" your children love you and there is a woman that lives here with them that does so - Notwithstanding the distance is so great my heart reaches from here to it - I think it will be good for us to be seperated awhile - for we did not know how much we enjoyed awhile together don't you think so? I sometimes think if you was at home that we should all be very happy but we should not know it I suppose -

I get along very well feel in pretty good spirits if you will only write often I hope to be able to keep as You do very well about writing I have no reason to complain I have received three letters since you got to Du Quoin and expect to get another Mondays mail I wish Ella would write me a long letter if she is able I am sorry for her - that her health is so poor When one has poor health they cannot enjoy much

school keeps only four more longer & the school is done games on cut the wood and do the chores very well I do not know when John will go away from home but when he does he will bring the colt home for Father does not use him much

John has got him broke so he goes as steady as an old horse John is a good boy he makes me think of Eliab Samuel is very kind and thoughtfull about all of my wants he comes over here sometimes on purpose to see how I get along I do feel that I have kind and good friends How many blessings our Heavenly Father does bestow on us I feel that to-night while sitting here alone that His protecting hand is about me What a place of refuge it is to flee to Him I think I realize it more and more I suppose I had say good night-

May our hearts both be united to-night in asking Gods blessings — and thanking Him for them

Monday evening

I have just recieved a letter from you - for which I feel very thankful —
Samuel brought it up — he is now sitting by the table reading is a going to stay here to night - going into the woods tomorow —
Josie is sleeping quite easy now — He is in the cradle - he appears some better — we can tell by morning whether he really is or not:
My Mother is here she will stay a day or two - till Josie is better — I do not think he is dangerous but has got a tongue fever]
I cannot help wishing that you were here but if you were there could not be any thing more done - than is being done —
Our Dear friends are all very kind I do feel that a real heart felting friends are not to be slightly valued. I should rather be poor have only enough to make me decently comfortable than to have all the gold of California and [illegible] to be without - there should not you?
With regard to highering a man next summer I do not know where we can get a suitable one I have enquired of every body that I thought could tell where we could find one - cannot find any knowledge of any one

Albina S. Rich - Fitchburg
Kittredge

It seems to me that it is best for you to come home by the last of April or first of May -
Don't it pay more to put in a crop - than it will to stay there it seems to me that it will don't you think it will? And supposing it would not - I do not know to make up my mind to have you stay away so long

I feel that if I have got a Husband I want to live with him - We have not got but a little while to stay in this world and I think that it is our duty to enjoy life if we can
It is entirely out of the question for me to enjoy as much while you are away there as when you are at home And I know it is the same with you

Tuesday Morning

Josie rested quite comfortably last night Mother set up with him - we are in hopes that the fever will not go very hard with him to day is the 24th day of its run - a lung fever runs about 7 days
I feel that you must come home in the Spring don't you think it is best for you to
I shall write again in a few days

From Your Wife
Mrs Rich

Monday Evening Feb 6th 1854

Dear Charley

Perhaps I should be remiss in duty not to write you now, and perhaps still further remiss not to urge your return home early in the spring. I think that your journey west will be productive of good to you. If you should make no money by it. perhaps you may derive as much benefit from it by returning in April as by staying until July. and certainly it a Great Sacrifice on the part of Albina to have you colony from home, I think that Josie is better this evening than I have seen him before since he has been sick and we hope that he will continue to improve. I do not think that there is any thing alarming in his case yet. There have been two lambs at the barn and alive I think you will be likely to lose all that come early there is no warm place for them and with the Mercury from Zero to 30° below they are sure to freeze you stock looks pretty well though not as a farmers stock should look, your barn is the coldest place on your farm. If you are going to do any farming next summer I should think it quite necessary that you should have some kind of a team. I could collect you a yoke of oxen if you wish. I think you will have no hay to spare. perhaps you may have enough pressed hay is now worth $18 to 20. corn $1.00. oats 60cts

your Mother has been down with us about three weeks I think she will come up by stage Wednesday I go into the woods tomorrow shall be there again the last of this week. our teams are doing well it has been a good winter for lumbering as roads for hauling logs provisions and labor are so high that it will be pretty difficult to make much money. we have seven teams in the woods and they now have in 2,700,000 ft about what our six teams put in in all last winter we are in hopes to put in by the last of March 4,500,000 ft

I think you had better decide soon about open for it may be about the last of March before we get your answer to this. Crosby was Elected Governor by the Legislature last Saturday. The seven Pilsbury Senators (a majority of all the Senators elected by the people) refused to report vacancies except when only Pilsbury men were eligable hoping thereby to get control of the Senate and H. House refusing to go into convention until all vacancies were reported this matter stood for four weeks until the question was referred to the Judges of the Superior Court who decided that the Constitution contemplated but one Convention for filling vacancies. thus throwing the whole responsibility of the delay upon the tail of the Cat Senators 31 - it's getting late and I must close

Good Night

S. W. Farber

for I fear you would be sick as you was last winter
Joseph has got well is a real good and pleas[illegible]
Charlie is a good boy to— he has not been [illegible]
to this writing and has not learned much but I
guess he will grow— Grandmother hears him read [illegible]
day Charlie speaks of his father often Little Mary
is pretty well as well as could be expected while cutting
teeth she is a smart girl— and rather good looking
when she is clean— and pleasant

You wanted to know about the fodder corn— how much
the hog weighed &c— I suppose the hay will hold out
shall not have [illegible] It seems to me that we better not
buy open but take a pair don't you think so— if there is
hay enough— I should not think the corn is more than
a third gone I suppose we have not given as much corn
to the cattle as you calculated to have us but I guess the
cattle will have fared as well as they have been in the fact
of passing we give the sheep cobmeal most every day
they have got a stone at the village to grind corn on the
cob— and he has got a lot ground before he went away
We have had 7 lambs 4 are living now and doing
well one lamb James found dead under the barn
one came such a cold day that it could not be raised
for dying— the third one its mother would not own
the lambs seem to be strong and smart— The hog we
did not weigh but will supply us with meat till next fall
it was not very fat

Feb 20 1864

My Dear Charles

When I say Dear Charles it is not for forms sake but it comes from the heart My Dear Charles you are dear to me the dearest of all that is dear sometimes I feel that the sacrifice that I have to make to live without your company this winter is to great If it were not for the benefit that I expect it will be to you to go Ill I could not feel willing to have you stay away there so long I feel that there is a great distance between us I try to comfort myself by thinking that it will do us good to be separated awhile we shall learn how to prise each others company but it will sometimes make my "eyes sweat"

I received a letter from you last Monday which was dated the 30th it was mailed 1/2 I have got all of your letters and you have not got but one of mine I sent you four letters besides a part of a sheet that I put into a) letter that your Mother sent — this will make five letters —

It must be very hard for you not to hear from home I hope you have before this time I shall write to you every week till I hear that you have heard from us

Don't you begin to think about coming to me yet

I should think you would be glad - to have your son in Dover - Forest - there with you I suppose that he will work at - Dedo to - when you do work - he? So go up to Isaac home after dorit - you? I am glad you do I suppose it - seems like home up there - I suppose you play with Isaac's baby and almost - call it - yours sometimes dorit - you - I do feel sorry for Netta I hope that she will get - strong and well now she has weaned her babe Wont - she come east - when you come - dont - she think that the climate - of Ill does not - agree with her or is all because she has had a baby. I know that it - is no small job to have a babe and get - over it - I dorit - believe Isaac will stay there many years do you? I suppose he is making money there but - do you think his health is as good there as it - would be eastward Con have not told me yet - how you like the country - do you think you should like to - live there

I think you will have to - come home before it - is time to begin to work on the farm for I do not - think - we can get - a good and suitable man to come here I do not - know of any Franklin cannot - come If provisions are as high as they are now you can do better on your farm with summer and fall than you can there I should suppose

Flour is 12.00 $ pr bbl in Bangor Eggs 25 - ⅌ doz beans 2.25 pr bush, &c =

Little Mary has been quite unwell for two or three days I think that it is her teeth she has had a sore mouth for she is just sick enough to be cross and worrisome she did not sleep well last night nor night before - she sleeps well this evening - guess she will all night - if she does she will be better tomorrow Charlie & Josie are fatty well they are as ... otherwise than that they are well Charlie does not go to school much it has been so cold - and bad walkin we have had a great deal of cold weather Josie does not forget you he speaks of Pawa often Good night -

Feb 3) Dearest Charles how I wish to see you it seems to me that I can not hardly wait till it is time for you to come home - You will come by the first of May won't you! I am a going to try & hold out till then. If you do not come home by that time I shall give up - by that time my courage will fail by that time if you do not come home

Father & Mother have been up here this afternoon and evening - when any one is here I think of you the more I can not enjoy company nor any thing else without you I do not think that every wifes happiness depends so much upon there husband as mine does upon you if it did there would not be so many husbands go to California

Little Mary is better than she was but now Josie is quite unwell with a bad cold is quite feverish to night -

but I hope he will be better in the morning Jane and James have had very bad colds It has been the greatest time for colds this winter that I ever heared of I have been very fortunate for I have not had a bad cold this winter I am very carefull for I do not know what we should do if I should be sick

We have had a great deal of real cold weather this winter and it is cold to night our cellar has froze some notwithstanding it was banked so well and Conch fixed the bulk head so thoroughly

Uncle Family have all got the measles and he is most sick with a cold and cough

Luther Getchel of Sebec is dead had the typhoid fever

There was a man froze to death in Sebec last week

Provisions are very high, and every thing is high —

It makes me feel bad that you do not hear from home I want you to get all of my letters I stop I had better say Good night and go to Bed it is after nine and I have been broak of my rest some this week with the babe — I feel that I cannot stop, but I must —

How I want to see you My dear Charles

Feb 5th It is Sunday just after noon

I said to you on the other page which I wrote Friday, that Josie was not very well = he was quite sick Friday - and is to day he is having a spell of the worms just as he had last winter you remember it about this time The Doc has been up here this forenoon gave him a portion of physic after it operates I am to give him through the night - one in 4 hours - he is not dangerously sick the Doc says that he does not think he will be — The Doc thinks he will be better in a few days

Feb 6th It is monday just after dinner the Doc came this forenoon he says that Josie is not so well he is afraid that it is not all worms - he says that if he is not a going to have the measles that he appears as if he was a going to have the Typhoid fever Now we are in the sitting room Josie lays in the cradle - he is not very sick - tells what he wants &c

Feb 9th 1864

Dear Charles

I am in the sitting room watching over dear little Josie it is about 10 o'clock My Mother is laying on the lounge Josie is fever turned last night through the day he has seemed quite smart but very weak he has been teasing for something to eat all day but we do not give him but very little The Doc has been here this afternoon he thinks he will get about soon but I must be very careful of him for a long time for his lungs are very weak He is now sleeping very sound so sound that I have to turn him often He has not slept as he does now since he has been sick I think he will be quite smart tomorrow He was taken last friday week cold the wednesday before — wednesday was a warm day and he played out front of the piazza with his sled he stayed to long Dr. was here that day and Little Mary was very wearisome I had so much to take my mind that I did not look after Josie as I ought He did not seem much unwell till Friday night or afternoon Father and Mother were here that afternoon Mother and I put him to bed very warm so that he might sweat some but did not think him sick only bad cold

that night he wanted water of him – and breathed hard – the next day Saturday Mrs Sargent came down here – we soaked his feet and put on onions gave him asafetida – and got him sweating That night I went to bed with him but did not sleep much at 3 in the morning I got up and dressed Saturday I had the little stove put up in our bedroom kept a fire all night When I got up and dressed I felt quite anxious about Josie I can assure you he was feverish and breathed very hard and did not know what to do – But I felt that God would take care of us Early in the morning I sent James after the Doc he wanted to give him a dose of calomile but he did not because I objected somewhat – but told him to do as he thought best so he gave rhubarb Monday when he came he put on a Plister on his stomach and it relieved his hard breathing Tuesday when he came he gave calomile Wednesday morning he looked and acted very sick I felt afeaid that you would never see him again but it was the effect of the calomile Father stayed here that night We all felt that he was very sick My Mother has been here since Saturday it is now Thursday we have had no one to watch but Mother and I we both stand very well

I do not know what I should have done if it had not been for Mother Mrs Sargent has been quite sick with a cold – so sick that she was not able to come

down here — you know Mrs Colvin is young and does not know how to take care of the sick any better than I do —

I have written to your Mother about Josie - and I shall expect her to-morrow by stage -
I have asked Josie several times since he has been sick what I should say to Father "till him I was sick"

My dear Charles I feel that Gods supporting strength is about me - if I could not go to God and there cast all that is dear to me - I feel that I should be miserable I should have no place of refuge O how much above every thing of this world is a trust in God

12 Sunday evening

Dear Charles We are all quite comfortable this evening Josie is much better he has had his boots on to day and has walk a few steps with help - he is rather fretful and peevish has a good appetite &c - We all get along as well as we can without you

With regard to your staying there till summer - I feel that I cannot have you away so long from home but still I of course want you to do as you think is best to do

I do not know of any man that we can get to come here yet — you know that when you are at home you find it difficult to get a hired

[illegible]

Monday - 13th

Dearist Charles

Josie is quite smart - to day walks about the house and plays some he will get along nicely if he does not take any cold I mean to be very careful of him I have been thinking about your staying there till summer - you know what is best - to do - If you really think it best - to stay we will try to do as well as we can - for know it is very difficult - to get help - but there will be some way provided - for money enough I suppose we will get all the help we shall want

I want you to write soon and tell just what you want done - and what you are a going to do

Mother has come home and will stay I suppose till you come home I do not know - I shall be so lonesome - but for do not know how much I want you at home - if it is best for you to stay till June I will try to be willing.

I do not know as I have any thing more to write but I intend to write often

From Your Wife Affec

[illegible]

and Josie

Oakland May 26. 1892

Dear Mother

I received a letter from you yesterday when he came home - I received a letter from you I was not expecting one till tomorrow as it was mailed Feb 14th I have had letters from you every week for some time & have written to you every week for as near a week [illegible] as I could - it is that you do not get them. You are very kind & thoughtful to write so often & I thank you for being so prompt - If it were not for your letters I should be very lonely This winter is most gone and I am not sorry for it has been a long cold dreary winter - It seems to me that I never experienced so much cold weather as we have had this winter, and I think I never heard of so much sickness - so many bad colds and flu. Our children have all had bad bad colds and You have got my letter telling before now telling you that Josie has had a hemorrhage - when he began to get well - he got about very quick and had a great appetite - he gained very fast and seemed to be over it - but last week or two ago some way I do not know how - he has had a bad cough - this cough is worse to day than it has been and does not cough so much He sleeps in Grandmothers room all of the time we do not let him cough but he still has a cough & at times his lungs are so sore

Feb 14th I will drop you a few lines — I received your letter — I am very glad to hear from you — I am very glad to hear from you

Little Boy is quite unwell & suffering with it takes me to take care of him - Charlie has had a bad cold and had the croup also - I do not know what I should have done the week passed if your Mother had not been here to help take care and tell what to do for the children Dr to has had a very bad cold and cough but is considerable better now - I am glad the cold weather is most gone for surely at reasons one is that soon you will come home Next Tuesday you will have been gone 3 months it has been the longest three months that I ever experienced I have been very well all winter I sometimes feel lonely and sad I know I have no reason to - but I do feel lonely without your comforting words - But I will try to be cheerful it will not be long now before you will come home I hope Sunday evening. The children are all abed and quite comfortable How thankful I ought to be that they are as well — as they are - some of them dangerously sick Father has been here this evening has gone up to Mr Rangels to watch with him Mr Rangel is some better but the pain in his side remains yet Mr Rose is very sick with typhus fever Father has been to see him today Mr Linn's family are most all sick with the measles I hope that as soon as mine breaks there will not be so much sickness about - I shall expect to see you sometime in April perhaps sooner that you can get home as I am so that I can and possibly think a good deal of their letters that "Paper" sent -

Give my love to Hattie for I do love her with my I am not much acquainted with her I know she is a good woman I hope she will come and stay here a good long time I will remember with pleasure would come to I do not know as I can [illegible] more to say if I have I will say it next time

From your Sincere and True Wife Ellen

Mile March 5th 1854

Dear Charles

March has come at last— how cheering it is to have spring come especially after such a long cold winter like we've had in which we had quite pleasant weather I hope we shall not have much more windy weather I suppose it is more stormy weather with you isn't it I think I have heard Isaac say that it does begin to set in March It will seem a little queer to you I think it to come home in April instead of May and find snow &c, as after being there it is so warm and everything growing green & pretty you will think that it is not best to stay in such a cold backward climate the rest of your days But I suppose every country has its disadvantages as well as advantages If we do not have so comfortable winters we have comfortable summers I guess that makes us don't you?

You have not written yet where you are coming home I hope the ship will not sail till I shall expect you as soon as the last of April or first of May But want you here to let us know of any time that we can get word for this summer Yesterday Friday Ellen was here Mary went Cassius to come home as soon as we can I guess we shall

come here I went down to the Village yesterday to see if I could come back He said that he was not able therefore cannot come Father is going to Atkinson the first of this week to find one for me if he cannot find any one about here James will stay till we can get some one notwithstanding his father wants him to come home he could not get Large Medicine Mrs Peaslee sent wants him You must not worry about us for we shall be provided for - but come home as soon as you think it best to Things go on as well as they could be expected to with no one but James to take care We are all very well now Rose appears as well as ever he did but we feel it necessary to be careful of him yet - Do not let him grow careless The last I heard from Ida Augusta he was a little better does not look as much like Mr Lane's family have all been sick with it measles Daniel was very sick

I hope you will be careful of yourself and not work too hard I feel that it will not be long now before you will come home to your wife and children

Sunday evening I have just got the children to bed I am now sitting in the kitchen how much my mind has been with you to day and I suppose you think of us as much as I think of you How many tears I have for your comfort

At home it is hard for me to live week after week without your counsel advice and company but we have everything else – without you. I am lonely. It is seven years next Saturday since we were married does it seem to you – so long a time how fast years are passing soon our years will all be gone and we know not how soon. What we have got to do we must attend to now while the day lasts Sometimes the thought comes – Perhaps we shall never meet again – You know it is possible shall we meet in heaven. Let us ask our Heavenly Father

My dear this may make heart to you. Sometimes fear that you are ill to me from home ———.

At any rate I feel that I want to end life with you and after death dwell with you

Monday evening

I got a letter from you to day as usual. It was welcome but it written with I thank you for writing so often – it is encouraging to get a letter from you every week It seems to me that you do not get my letters as quick as I do yours You say that you do not know where you will come from I was in hopes that this letter would tell when you are coming

But I suppose I must try to be contented and not think so much about you coming home I want you to stay as long as you think it best to stay, only with the hope I so much want to come

if you conclude that it is best for you to remain there till after it is time to put in crops - we will do the best that we can there do not you know of any way that we can get to work there but perhaps some one will make their appearance by and by Father has gone to Atkinson today to see if he can find any one to come here I shall not send this till he comes back so as to tell you whether he gets any one or not Father keeps the colt yet but will bring him home soon I expect They have taken good care of him and have not used him to hinder him he is steady It was not much work to break him I am glad he is gone for it makes one colt less for James to take care of When John was bringing me home the other day he said if he was worth 125 $ as horses were going now Father would like to buy him I guess if you wanted to sell him But I think it likely that he would not want to give as much as that for a horse

You say in your letter that if you are gone "another winter" you will not have so much stock to be taken care of You do not intend to go off — and leave me again I hope do you What are your plans? or do you think it best not to tell me till you come home Or are you coming home and are going to be contented to live and die on this good old farm with me

You say that you want to stay long enough to earn money to pay your expences If you have been out there all this time and have not saved your expences — well — I guess you had better come home But I want you to stay as long as you think it best to but I do not want you to stay till it gets to be too warm so as to get the chills for I rather you would come home without a cent than to get sick and so had you — I suppose you want to stay so as to try the warm weather is not that it

Friend B[r]

I [illegible] to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Sat Father got back from Atkinson this afternoon he has found a man He is a widower about 50 - I think father said The man would not engage for any particular time but wanted to wait till he had been here a while His name is Mr Meder - he shall have to pay him 12 or 14 $ pr month He is coming next monday

I still think you will be at home by the first of May I am afraid that if you stay there longer - you will get sick

I should suppose that you could do better to put in a crop than to stay there

We have not decided yet whether it is best to take apple Samuel was here last night he rather thought that it was not. But we cannot tell yet Mr Braden has bought the old Farber farm - price $ 110. Dane thought perhaps we could hire apples of him for what we shall want if we can it will be cheaper than to take a pair - especially if we are short of hay

I shall write and tell you about the man I am going to have after he comes

I do not know as I have any more to write

Love from all & Your affectionate

Wife

[illegible] Dear Friend, I am [illegible] I will [illegible] I [illegible] I [illegible] I

to stay - You know that I do get home as well as you do what I
We have lost a good many lambs I guess if you were here
Sunday night I and you know I do not know anything to write
2 Sd Sunday morning the children are all fine to
bed I am sitting in the kitchen how I wish you
could come and sit here too - But how foolish that is
will as other impossible wishes are but really if you were
here how fast we could talk could not we?
Mr Mader has not come back yet and I shall not expect him before next week Summer and I take care of the
barn with the help of Charlie we get along very well
It has been quite cold weather since Mr Mader went
away and that is favorable you know because the
cattle and sheep eat so much better, we have not had
many lambs lately. Have got only four lambs they are small
I expect. I do you will say - when you get home - that I have
grown old and "homely" as Charlie calls it. Father tells me
that I grow old But if I could only grow wise it would
be no matter if I did grow old.
Summer went to the P.O. yesterday and brought a letter from
you mailed March 7. do you know how glad I am - to
hear from you every week? if you do I trust you will continue to write. But you say that if we can get a man to work
here, you think it is best for you to stay where till Spring
do you think it is best for you to stay so long? I am
afraid you are too anxious to get a little money but of
course you know your own business best - I am afraid
you will be anxious to get the work along that you
will work too hard You are not master workman of
that boarding house are you? How do you like working
there How many questions I could ask if I could only see you

29th Dear Mother I was very much pleased to receive your letter
trouble mind! to see me - but I do as you think that it is best
I love

to but to do- Still I feel that you had better come
you would have need them. We have not had any time to take our last-
about taking care of a barn I have tried my hand at it
Two years you have been gone a long time how can I have
you stay till June must I be willing? sometimes I feel
that I cannot- but if I must- I must- I suppose I am
suspicious that it is not for the pay alone that you want-
too stay It is to know something about the warm weather
well that is the only thing that makes any willing-
ness on my part to have you stay for I think perhaps
you will not like that climate any better than this when
you know something about their summers Mr Follett
was here the other day- he says you will go there to live
yet- and he would if he was in your place I asked
him 'why'- why says he- a few such winters as this
is enough to [illegible] the strongest constitution- His wife
is loving yet- but is failing fast- I suppose I had better
stop for I fear I shall get my sheet full- I shall not send
this till Mr Meder comes or I hear from him good night- Albion
26 It is sunday about 5 o'clock How my heart yearns
to see your face I do not know but I am unreasonable
foolish, and childish. but- I feel that if you were
at home we should all be perfectly happy"
Mr Meder has not got back yet- and I do not know as he
could get here if he wanted to the roads are so blocked
up It has snowed and blowed for 5 days the
roads have not been so bad this winter as they are now
Summer and I have had rather a hard time. Yesterday
I went to the barn four times apart- of the way I had to
crall on my hands and knees the snow is so deep The reason
I went so many times was because- we had a little [illegible]
corn (by way of) and it would not suck it-

* the Lamb's are all a doing well also mother's cow- have got two more and a heifer- have two calves- the other one died- I have been a long time writing

Stephen and John came up here Thursday morning with the colt - They [illegible] the stage to the [illegible] stage did not go through then they took horses one mile while one went before the horses the other would make a little ways John has now gone back on foot & snow-shoes Stephen will stay till the roads are broken out - You do not know how glad I was to see them - for I had not only got heard but sore sick again. - - I do not know but it is owing to my weakness - but it has been a trying time with me all winter I do try to keep good courage - and look on the bright side but I sometimes find it hard to do so - How thankful I ought to be that You as well as myself are so well O! I ought not to complain and I do not know as I do - I certainly do not blame any one

27th Monday afternoon I have for a long time [illegible] your staying there till spring time I have never given up my mind to you as it goes, that you had [illegible] to do your spring work - You know that the farming [illegible] all out - if we [illegible] - if we could get a good man [illegible] is not yet known that we can - I fear he will soon get discouraged and go off You know that any man that we could get would not do as you can Now - you think you had better come? I do - If you feel that you have not got enough of Illinois perhaps you had better go back next winter if you want to - sell out your farm do some thing I do not know what with your wife and children I cannot tell feeling that you had better come home this spring but you know that you have your own business to [illegible] and you know also that too much can sink me I do not feel that you will blame me for thinking that you had better come home when you realize how much care and anxiety I have had this winter I know I have tried with all the ability that I possess to make the best of every thing that came along - if I am sorry it is owing to my weakness - which my friends will have to bear with for I cannot overcome them

There is a drift-pile at the corner that comes almost up to the limbs of the elm tree - This winter Bro Sam the heaviest that ever I knew in the [illegible] that I have lived Charlie Fowler and Mary are all very well and happy - and [illegible]

[illegible]

Lincoln April 12th 1854

Dearest Mother

I have sit down to write a little but do not know as I have any thing in particular to say. It has rained some to day and sometimes hard in night — if we should have much rain we should have a great freshet. Ben is running around on the ground. We are all very well. I got pretty tired going to the town so much — before we got me got a boy — but now I feel very well the most of the time. Rosetta is here now but she will go away soon as Tom does work — it is possible — if you are at home that you could get him to work for you this summer but he does not want to stay if you are not here. he does not want to go "a head" as he calls it — I have not heard from the Medicine yet perhaps he will be along the first of the week —

I just write that you will be at home so soon as the middle of May —

2d Jane birth day — It is a little too early for us to be meeting I am not sure to be meeting a time when you are sick I should be as much disappointed as you would have I to long to have you come home — so we can live again. I begin to feel almost impatient Money will not pay — our living as I have this winter I had rather live poor all the days of my life.

If it were not for the fear of — that it might be for you to take such a journey I would not be willing to have you stay

Mr Sargent sent you a paper the other day. He wrote to Henry that he had written to you - but has never received any from you Had you not better write to him again. He has written to Almeda this winter - at the time he wrote he was in a thoughtful state of mind Before he went away - he told Almeda that he did not want anyone to say any thing within about his soul - Almeda asked him if he was not willing that any one should pray for him and he did not forget it - I pitty Henry I feel that if he had a different wife he would be a different man. She is not his equal - Henry Sargent is gaining slowly sits up some

April 3d - It is monday evening I got a letter from you to night as usual dated March 19th - Samuel is here came from the woods - has done now. came out with his teams to day - We have been talking this evening about your coming home - I do not know what is best to do I do not know but we can get Walter Rider if we can I suppose we can get along very well Samuel saw him yesterday in the woods he is coming out in a few days - when he comes out he is coming down here to see us - If we can make a bargain I suppose he will come - I shall write to you again as soon as he comes - and tell you what we have agreed upon - I suppose we can get along if Walter does not come for we can get some one if you really think it best to stay longer - but - I fear you will expose yourself and get sick there. I want you to do as you think is best to do I do not want you to come home because I want

you to and after you get here feel that it would be better if you had stayed longer.

It is very hard for me to live so long without your comforting bosom to lean upon. But I want to be willing to do what is right. If it is my duty to be willing for you to stay till June "I will try." I suppose Samuel will provide us with a yoke of oxen. We are not sure that we shall have hay enough but perhaps we shall. If we do not have enough I suppose we had better take a yoke of cattle for we can buy a little hay better than do without cattle

I feel bad that we lose so much on our sheep the loss will take most all the profit. we have lost about 20 lambs and two sheep. I thought the sheep were in good order but since they have lambed they look different. We ought to have had a good man all winter instead of depending on James to do the chores. I think James did as well as he could. but you know the days were short and very cold I calculate that the loss on the sheep and lambs will be about $50. I did not expect to get along as well as we should if you were at home I do not expect you will save much by going to Illinois but I comfort myself by thinking that it will be a benefit to you to go

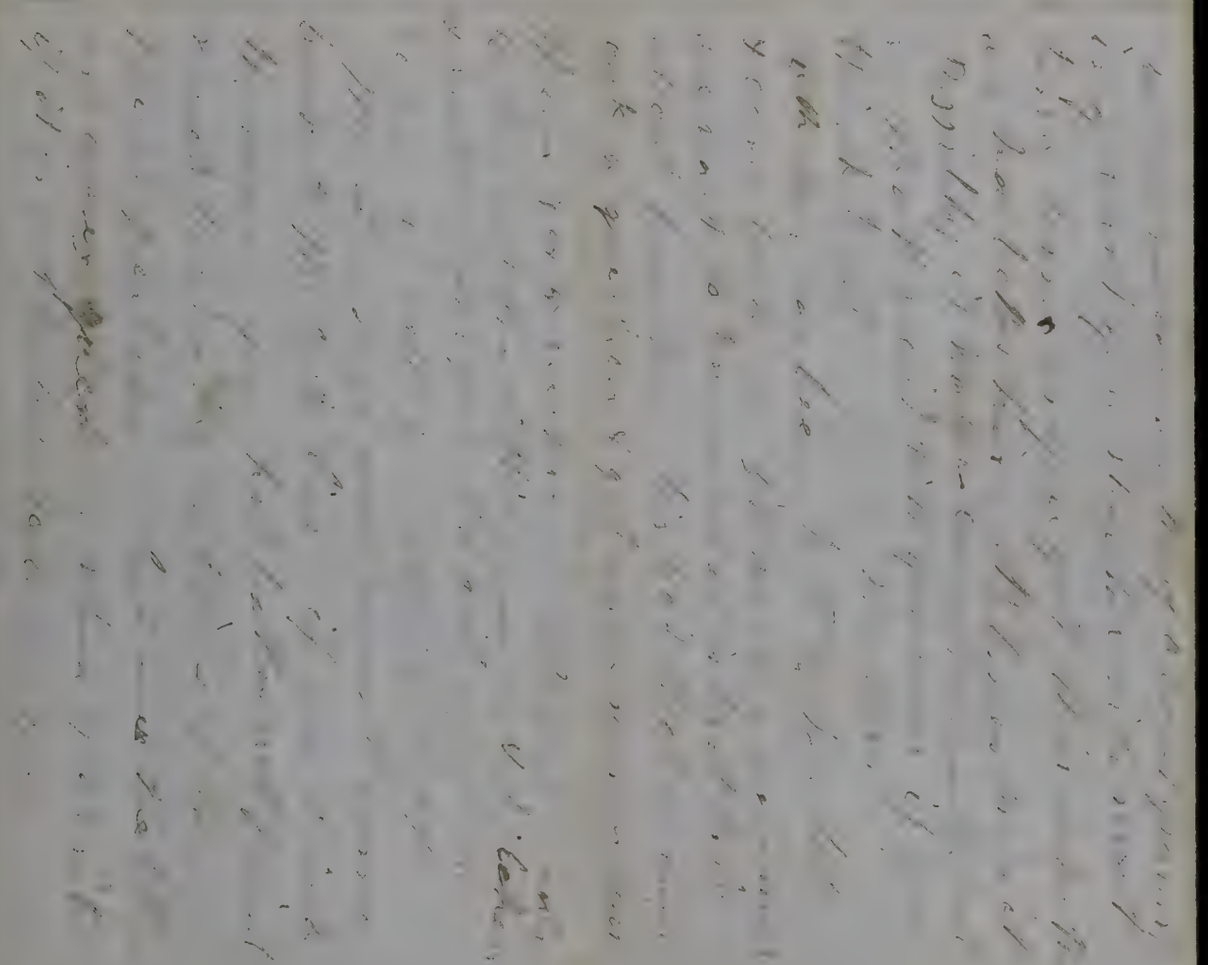
I feel for Netta Why is it that she is unwell so much. does that climate agree with her Does she think her health will be better if she comes east I should think she would want to get home to her Mother Give my love and sympathies to Netta. I do want to see her

I do not know as I had better set up much for yet it is near after nine I want to be up early in the morning for Daniel wants to go away early Your Mother will write what I have not—

I shall write to you again as soon as Walter comes - I suppose if he comes we shall all have to have his wife and baby—

I am tired have been washing guess I will say good night—

From Your Sincere wife
Alvira



Mitchigan April. 6. 1854.

Dear Charles

I am now sitting in the kitchen. It is Thursday evening Jane sits by one side Russ by the other of the stove. We are all well. The children are sweetly sleeping. If you was here how happy we should be. When I think of the probability of your staying there till June - - - I feel that June never will come what a long time it will be. Do you really think it best to stay so long. I fear that those writing hot days will be too hard for you. Charles do you think money is of much consequence, when compared with it keeping Husband and wife seperated for six months. Do not unless it is absolutely necessary.

Perhaps it is best to stay - I do not know. I want you to do as you think best. whether it is according to my feelings or not. I suppose I do not want you to come any more than you want to come. Mr Rider and Almeda came here yesterday went back this afternoon he says that he thinks we have got hay enough - said if we had not enough - he had not. He said that our sheep looked as well as his did. said he had lost one sheep had a mother must dead still another that he thought would not live - said that he had lost a number of lambs - said that it had been a hard winter for sheep - said that our cattle looked as well as his

He "said that he thought we had got along very well this winter finally he has comforted us considerable by his counsel and advice. I suppose Samuel will write you about the open. we have now got 21 lambs have not lost any sadly. Roscoe is a good boy to take care. the greatest fault I have to find is that he is too "flush" with meal &c but do not think it best to say anything yet. Mr Campbel has said considerable because we do not pay him. we have let him have sixty bush corn 8 shillings pr bush.

8th Saturday night about 8 Oclock. Roscoe went to the village this forenoon brought me a letter from you it came to the P.O. yesterday. I did not expect it till next week as it was only 11 days coming I fear you will get tired waiting to know what to depend upon about us. for we do not know exactly what we are going to do, now. If we do not have Mabie Rider I suppose we can have Roscoe most by paying wages enough we can have George Hodgkins for £10 per month if we could only ask you what we had better do how glad we should be to talk, so long for letters to go and come back. that it is of no use to ask questions that need to be answered within two months

It is of no use for me to tell you I suppose - how much I want you to come home I do not know as it would do any good if I should, and I could not tell you how much I want you to come if I should try, so I will try not to say much about it. Father was in here to day he says that he is afraid the gray colt has got the Hornal x

x it has been a cold winter. Abiel in Brunswick with it - this winter a number of horses have died in Brunswick with it - this winter

Sunday 9th What shall I say. I do not know as I have but one thing to say and that is "I want you to come home" still perhaps you think it best to stay longer but I fear that if you do you will get sick -
I shall expect Walter] Rider here tomorrow to see if he wants to come here this summer. I wish we could have known what we were a going to do before this so to let you know - but we could not
I feel for Nitta I must be that she is feeble - I fear the journey east will be hard for her - how hard it will be for Isaac to have her come away I should think Nitta would feel anxious to get to her Mother - notwithstanding it will be so hard to leave Isaac - If Isaac would only come too I suppose you can hardly imagine of weather we are now having our climate is so different from Illinois To day the snow is melting very fast it is getting to be quite sloppy - How I long to have the snow go off and green grass make its appearance Are you a going to be able to buy a carpet &c for the east chamber this spring? I want you to get a little chair with or without rockers as you think best for Mary if you get a rocking chair get one that will not rock over. I want her to sit down and sit still once in while This is a long day. I have not been to meeting for a long time But a few times since you went away I do not expect nor do want to go much till you get home - when I do go I feel solitary and alone -
We have lost 3 swarms of bees.
Mary is cutting her double teeth and it makes her rather troublesome -

Monday 10. 20 has been so hot rain in to day looks now as if it was a going to clear off

Father Fidler came this afternoon and will stay I guess - on what conditions he has not yet said but I suppose you had rather he would be here rather than most any one else - you know that he will know better how to manage affairs than any boy. He will paint the house - make a card today - and do other thing that you would do if you was here. I think we shall get along nicely - but I worried about you I fear you will stay too long - so as to get the "shakes" Do I intreat you come home before it get to be such hot weather - You do not know how much we all want to see your father

We have got 2.45 barrels -

I guess I shall not write to you again until I know when you are a coming home

We are all well - Roscoe Frost is going home to night I am a going to send this to the P.O. by him he is a going to work for Mr Lennett 8 months. $ 14 - pr month - I suppose we shall have Walters wife and he to board - perhaps she will help me some so as to not pay her board but so far it has been quite - I have been writing as fast as I can string for it is most dark -

do come home before you get sick.

Jane is going to Almedas From Your Affection

Neb Ter. April 14. 1854

Dearist Children.

I said in my last letter to you that I thought I should not write again for fear you would start before it would get to Indiana. It takes so long for my letters to get - But the temptation is too great to resist - I must write once more - perhaps you will get it - I have just received a letter dated April 2. It has been only 10 days coming. I get letters from you regularly every week - I get all of your letters. You are very kind to write so often. It is more than I expected to have a letter every week. But I know that I had a "kind" husband before he went away. We get along very well that is, as well as can be expected. When you are not here Dr Allen Ryder is here and will stay till you come home. and perhaps longer just as you and he can agree. He has not said exactly what it is he will ask but said that if he was well. he wanted to do something that would pay about $ 15. He said that he guessed that you and he could agree - He will go after his wife in a few days I suppose. Perhaps she will help me some and by so doing part pay her board Jane is going to Almeda's - Mr Sargent is still gaining has got so that he eats with the rest at the table He is some childish and also funny - It is not so sickly, and has been

You want to know about the Texas officers I do not
even know who the selections are. If I knew I would
tell but as I told you, and it is Mr T H Cavitt
is one of the governors council. You said that Bishop
Chastin and Jessie were picking up stones in the north
field. I wish you could see it- I guess you would. I think
that it would be a good while before we could pick stones
the snow is so deep. but it is going away fast now
we have cold nights- but in the middle of the day it
is quite warm. O how glad, glad I shall be when the
ground gets settled. What a long- cold winter this
has been it has not only been long but very cold.
Charles I do hope you will never be gone away from
home so long again. You do not know how hard
it is for me to live without you- I have said and
will say again that money will not pay If it is
necessary I am willing to be poor- but am not will-
ing to live as I have this winter for money
I still hope you will be at home by the middle of
May. Why- do you want to stay any longer.
Why don't Hattie come with you- You can take good
care of her. My stomach is not done feeling badly
I do not know as I have any thing more to say that will
do you any good Samuel supplies us with all that we
want- he has hayed the tapes. I want you to remember
I want you to come home -All well- come home
Albine

Nicollet April 30. 1854

My Own Dear Charles

It is Sabbath day. It has been raining since last Wednesday, and still continues. We are having a cold dismy spring. the ice has not gone out yet. I did not calculate to write to you again for I thought perhaps you would leave Dubuque before this reached there but if you stay till the last of May perhaps you will get this just before you leave. The snow has gone away very easy it is now very muddy. If we could have a warm sun a week or two the ground would dry very fast. Walter Rider & wife and babe are all here we get along very well they are both very pleasant folks I wish we could have known that they would come a long time ago so as to have told you for I suppose it would have saved you some anxiety for us but I wrote you as soon as I knew about it. Walter is here and we are all well, and getting along well your place is not made good. How my heart yearns to see you. You have now been gone five months what a long time it has been. I know it must be hard for you to stay away from this old farm so long. The sheep are having rather a hard time about now they are so anxious to get to the ground that they will not eat hay but as soon as this rain is over they will pass better. They are bewitched to get to the ground

and is not to blame either for they have been shut up long enough I expect we shall be short of hay a little perhaps have to buy one or two bunches of the hay that is in the barn there are many buyers of hay this spring Joseph Sargent with the rest Mr Henry Sargent is getting along slowly some think that he will never get well he is some what worn out some. I have had letters from you every week all winter have had one telling about the spring work. I had a letter last Friday night but I still expect you home the first of June shall I not what kind of order are your clothes in are not your shirts most worn out if they are perhaps you had better buy one. do you calculate to get any over coat. I would have a decent suit if I was in your place. Walter has been painting the house is going to fit the east side. Our grey colt is at Father yet how much longer he will stay I do not know he has had the horse ills very bad most all the horses about here had had it. Mr Blazdell lost his colt with it Mr Rumsdell colt like to have died with it. Our colt is getting better now. he was real fat and has grown large this winter but his sickness has taken off his flesh the other colts are rather thin. How many times I have wished that you could be here in such things But we have all lived through it except some of the lambs, and you will be at home soon as the first of June it seems a long time to look ahead but then it will wear away in time.

Hay is $8.00 per ton

he have [illegible] [illegible] up the 15.#
[illegible]tion did not pay the 2$ Campbell kept
sending to me that he wanted his pay Father told me
that I had better pay him if I could for I payed it over
& 8 shillings to Nash. I have not got [illegible] by anything
since you went away. I shall write to you at Bangor
and send a list of things that we shall want this summer
The tea coffee sugar that you got is not gone yet we have
had a bbl of flour and shall want another when you
come home What shall we do about furnishing the
east chamber buying a carpet &c= we shall want it
fixed up some before Ann comes and what shall we do?
If you have any idear of going away from here
I suppose it is not best to lay out much-
Last Friday when I walked was at the village Stephen
told him that there was a Mr Walker at the tavern from
Old Town that was did to buy Fathers house mill &
farm. any thing further I have not heared-
Mr Charles Smith has gone to Penn= to look- his wife
has got a boy- Monday night about dark
It is the first day of May there is going out this
afternoon there is quite a jam of it. It would not
have gone for several days if had had no rain
It began to rain last wednesday and has been
rainy till this afternoon
May 2d Tuesday evening The water is very high come
up to Mr Colson's store steps Mr Col- Mitchel was in
here this forenoon he said the water had not been so

Liga for 25 years "The folks" say that they think
Cedar Bridge will go if water is above the bridge
"Everybody" says that "Ike" has been the head cat with
women for many years. Now we are having the greatest
freak known for 25 years I wish you was here to enjoy
our rainbirds Water passed the ground from the out-
house to the water and it is only 21 paces
May 2. It is a pleasant afternoon It begins to be spring.
The ground is drying very fast- but it will be some
time yet before Walter can work on the cultivator
It is so covered with water but all spring
crops very well be in- if fair the next
few days we will finish sowing the oats
corn, you can how we do
want to see me. If I had time I would
write more but must close
I have not been out from "Ivy"
(Ike) since the "Flood"

my in/ is so favor that- I do not-
know as you can find this out-

11th. Dear Charles. It is now a little passed 8. the children are all asleep the house is still Mother is talking with Walter in the kitchen and I am alone in the sitting room but my thoughts and heart are roaming to Charles how much I long for your company.

I have every thing about me to make me comfortable and happy. But I am not satisfied my companion is not here how can I be contented I am alone. Charles I realize more than ever the comfort we have taken in living together. It is very hard to be separated so long. But I suppose you think it best to stay as your business would have brought you home long ago. How much I want to be with you I want to know when you are coming, when you are not well, &c. &c. May 14. When are you coming home I begin to be almost discouraged. It seems as if you never would come but I must wait and wait I suppose. But what is the use for me to wish this for when you want this you will be most home. I have been to meeting to day walked down and back. have not been before since last December and guess I shall not go again till you get home. if that time is ever a going to come I walked down and back and did not get very tired should have got along as nice as could be if I could have had your arm to lean on. Dolly and Tom's wife went too - but he let her help herself down and back. how much better it looks to see a husband wait on or lead his wife than it does to see the wife lag along behind don't you think so? I do like to see husband and

esp respect each other

May 18th. Dearest Charles. Here I sit alone. don't you guess I get lonesome? well I do. It is about half passed 8. Nathie, Sally have gone to bed. Your Mother is still to Brownsville since supper Mr Rider came after her It is raining quite fast- I fear she will get wet some. And here and all alone how happy I should be if you was here But the time is soon a coming when you will be here if you live, It seems (almost) is if I could see you coming Good night 19th Today evening I am a poor all alone but I am anticipating that before many weeks I shall not be- for I calculate you will be at home sometime in the first week of June. I thought to my self when I was getting supper last night- how glad and thankful I was that my children had a father, for if they were wholey dependent upon me how "blue" would be the chance of their making good men.

May 21st I say "Dear Charles" But I feel that you are more than dear for the dearness can not be described Your long absence has not diminished my love for you - but if made any difference it has strengthened it- I fell last night (which was Saturday) that if you was at home how happy I should be Have not your sometimes fell when Saturday night came

a wish to tell it to the rest of your family
Why do I ask such a question? for I know that
I would have this what a happy time it must
be. "when we meet to part no more" Shall we
meet then? O! how important to be prepared to
leave this tabernacle of clay.

Charlie

Walter & Sally have gone to meeting today
I with the two children are now left alone. Mary & Louisa are now both at the door
standing near by looking at "My father"
just as I write. Tuesday afternoon May 23.
Well what shall I say. I have got so much to
say that I cannot think of anything. You will
soon be at home then I can tell you,
We are getting along nicely. Only the ground
is so wet Walter can not do much at farming
yet but he is doing what he can. Thanks you
do not know how well - hasty and happy -
I am I am not so strong as many women
but I have not felt so well since I have been
married as I do now.

Dearest Charles Isaac is here - how glad was I
to see him, and surprised too - I was expecting
you next week. I am sorry I have not written
to you oftener Sally the reason I have not is
because I thought you was coming home
sooner. You are all getting along nicely as
Isaac will tell you - but we want you to
come home. do not think of staying
any longer Isaac said - that he guessed.
he had better tell you how well we were getting
along and you had better stay all summer

June 25th 1854.

My own dear dear Charles I have sit down to write a little to you - because I cannot help it. That is my mind is with you almost all of the time. O Charles this suppression is almost more than I can bear -

I had got my mind made that you would certainly be at home the last week in June if you lived till that time and in your last Letter you said you thought you should stay two or three weeks longer -

Disappointment never sunk so deep into my breast before - but I must learn to leave all things with an <u>over ruling</u> power

Although I now feel that soon you will be at home - still - I feel that I must not feel certain that you will - for you may be taken as unexpectedly as was Mr Gilman perhaps I feel - if possible, more anxious about you because Mr Gilman was so unexpectedly taken from this life

June 30th - I am now sitting in our bedroom the rest i.e. Mother, Cathi &c= are in the kitchen it is most 9 - We get along very well but my dear Charles you are needed at home I do not think you realize how much

you boys mad you Charlie is getting to be a great boy - and he has had his own way so much that he thinks he known a great deal more than he does - The thought sometimes comes supposing they had no Father - as some boys - O I will not think such thoughts -

I have been thinking about you all day will the time ever come when I can lay my head in your bosom and find that confidence that I can't find any where else

It certainly is hard to live so long with out the better half of myself - But why do I write these feelings you will soon be at home then I can tell you all -

I have been thinking that I wished you could bring something home to your Mother I think it would please her if you should I do not know what it could be unless a dress of some kind if you get a dress had you not better get Lucy to select - for she would know better what she needs if you do not get a dress I would get something for her in particular if it's nothings more than a few figs or something

I have had about a half of a mind to ask you if you did not want to get your wife a bonnet here I never had one and have

always thought- I should like one but do not know as I want you to get one, for I fear you will sneak your money for other things, more, you will have to pay away considerable money when you get home Burton - Rosco Frost - Mr Moseley for shaving stock &c &c he has his settling with Barnard Barn - has not payed the last year but I thought he had $15- in him - but I offered that Perigo has or will pay $3- of it-

I am sorry that Nettie could not have stayed here longer I feel that I have not had it my turn - but I guess that it was necessary for to go back - with Barnard &c

I suppose it is best for me to say good night - for it is getting late and I must be up early in the morning Walter likes to have his breakfast early

How happy I shall be when you get home -

Mr Francis Jo. Klein

Burgau

und hier

July 12. 1854

Wednesday - 4 o'clock.

My Dear Charles

I have just got a letter from you written July 2d - O how can I think the long 20 - that you are not coming home. this week - it makes the tears run so fast that I can not hardly write - I told the boys this morning when they went to school that when they came home to night that I guessed their Father would be at home

But no Father has come - and I do not know when he is a going too - what a disappointment to them as well as me If you think it best to stay - I suppose I must submit - for I can do no other way - I want you to make up your mind if you stay that Bill Isaac gits done "as you say" - not to be sorry when you get home - that you stayed - it seems to me that it would be dangerous to come from there to this cold country in the fall - You will forget my winter - Charles has been not able to do much for a few days passed his old complaints troubled him he worked too hard hoeing

he is a first rate man with stand more too to do all he can we have had George and are a going to have him more Walter is a going to see if he can find a man to work in haying every thing has been changing for a week passed — waiting for you to come home — now we have got to shear sound for to — says that some of our hay is very much needed to be cut — &c

We are expecting Anna and family every day we thought perhaps you would come with them — I have not time to write more now for I want to send this to the P O to night — I shall write again soon I have written 2 letters to you and received one to Bangor — supposing you would be there this week I have been expecting you ever since last April

Every body is asking when is Mr Rich coming home I have told them before haying Mr Follett says that he wants you to come home he want to see you — &c

With the love of your Wife
& three Children

In haste

July 11th 1852

Dear Charles

Walter has been writing to you today and I guess I will put in a word. Walter feels more disappointed now than when he first learned that you were not coming home. If he was able to work I think he would be willing to stay although he says that - if he had known that you was not coming home before hiring. Probably he would not have come here. Sometimes I think that if you are earning 2 or 3 $ pr day that I ought to lay aside every thing ie all of my own feelings then again I feel that you are needed at home I think that it is a necessary for you to be at home to take care of you boys now as it is to be earning money to educate them. Charles has had his own way for a measure so long time, it is high time that you was at home to guide him — and you know that if Dulles stays Mrs Grally must be here with her baby and another child just with ours is not so pleasant — we have got along very well Charles I know that I have tried and tried to make the best of every thing that come along — not for the money that you

am coming but for the fear if it that you will get by going away - and now that you think of staying 4 or 5 months longer well I can not be reconsiled but if it is any duty to "I can by" but it is a hard way to live I had rather be poor and live with my Husband than to have lots of money or not - and I know that it is very hard for you to stay away from your family so long if you was like some did not care about us it would be different - But I will try to do as you think best wether it is according to my wishes or not

I shall write again as soon as I receive one from you which will be next week Wednesday I expect -

in great hast From your Love,

Tom Jarvis

Sally is at Brownville I do not know how long she will stay if he does not stay much longer perhaps she will not come back

Who shall I see the next time I write - we must know wonder what you are for dinner June 16. 1854

Do you ever wish you had a wife to stitch and fix your clothes carol - Charles

or don't you miss her very much your clothes are never out - I hope if you will come home I will fix them up nicely - about a month I have got a great deal of sewing to do and I want you to come home to help me - I have been to meeting to day heard Mr Hill preach a fine sermon - I am not very well to day - have a cold - and am afraid I shall be sick I do be careful of yourself Anna I walked down this morning Father got Uncle Marks horse to bring me back I should not have gone - but I have a class in the Sabbath School consequently felt it my duty to walk How much I miss my Husband every where I go I thought when I went to meeting last Sabbath that I should have a husband to go with to day perhaps you can imagine better than I can express - my disappointment The Mrs Kimball case is all that every body talk about nowadays - her case is to be tried next Saturday Everett is Butlers lawyer Sanborn of Bangor is to be the Doctor I wish you were at home to hear the case tried If Mrs Kimball is innocent I do think it will come out sometime if not now - if she is guilty it had better come out than remain as it is Walter went to Brownville yesterday to see if he can find any one to help us The man that he engaged to come to morrow has disappointed us — I fear it will cost a great deal to get our haying done -

Charles with effects to be sick next month

Father said to day that you did as much at haying in one day as any two men that we can hire - Charlie has just come and sit down by me - he wants to know if I am writing to Father I told him that I was - he says "tell him that Charlie wants him to come home with you" I have now written it - but I do not know as it is right for me to keep asking you to come home if you have decided and know that it is best for you to stay - but it seems to me that you must be getting very great wages to make it best for you to stay 2$ per day will not make your place good through haying if Walter was able to go into the work and go ahead perhaps it would you know that the men will not work as they would if you were at home to go ahead Father was up here yesterday he took 2 of the pigs - we are going to roast one then we shall have 3 left a fat one to keep over - Father says we had better put the colts in the other pasture they do not grain very fast he will take one into his pasture at Hobbs' have not room for more Oh how how I wish you were at home to do all of these things I am so tired to plan out doors business and I do not like the business either - I have tried to hold out - and hold on - comforting myself with the thoughts that soon you would be at home

could go now if we - together if we have the money

Tuesday

Walter has been to the Village since supper to see if there was any Letter - there was none - Guess will be on Friday There is a prospect now that we shall have some help about haying It is now 19th of July no one has cut any of our hay but George he has worked alone just a week Walter has tried every where for help It has been about such a time with us as it was that fall that you cut your knee you remember don't you how you rode every where and could find no help - That Lane Moses boy is coming to-morrow has $1.00 pr day Walter has hired a Spicer fellow is a coming next monday pays him 2 shillings pr day - McAshin says he will come after he gets done Wm Dolan will come after him Father gets done - thus you see we shall have help after a while but it is a going to cost a lot - to get it I suppose I had better say good night and go to bed - for I have to work pretty hard nowadays - Sally has gone to Brownsville - I should have some one to help for a week or two if there was any to be got - Expect him to-morrow

21st - Dearest - Charles I have just got an other good letter from my dearest friend You are truly kind to write so often I feel that I am not worthy of your kindness. How hard it must be for you to stay that longer - after you had your mind made up to come home for I know that home is a dear place to you - I think I have been too selfish - I have

To your sad news of Eliza's death. We should like to have had the little boy. Father says he wishes you back

thought too much about my own disappointment while I still feel to be very great. It is hard, very hard to live without you. I feel that I owe you a great compensation. But perhaps I am not right in feeling so — what do you say — You say that if Walter is here I can get along as well without as with you. I see, no, it is not so he cannot take your place in any respect — he does very well as far as he is able — He has not been at all well for 2 or 3 weeks not able to move any. Still I suppose he will want wages for staying here for he would prefer to be away. i.e. so he says. I asked him what I should say to you — with regard to staying longer he told me that I will tell you that the staying longer he told me that I will tell you that the would stay till after haying — there perhaps he should go and let George stay — Walter is unwell — and feels uneasy was very much disappointed that you did not come home. he has stayed as long as he can conclude to — and his wife expects to be sick — about December 1st. And I suppose he wants to be looking around — to see if he can find a place to live and I should think he wanted — It is not a very good place for his wife to be sick here with all of our children. They are rather unruly — I think you do not realize how much they need their father — You know that if we try to get along with George this fall — with additions. If day I work which is impossible to get we shall have a hard time getting in the fields. the plowing — to do — wood for winter — (by the way we have not got any wood at the door — I have hired one chips for a month like it all together will it be best for you to come home sometime in August — there will be the oats to harvest also — corn beans various other things to warrant all thanks does absolutely need You at home to set him to work he knows more than I do — I suppose you have got a good chance and like it too — but all things considered don't you think you had better come home soon to get ready for our dreadful winter — I have a greater dread of winter than ever before —

Ann and her husband have gone to Brown will to night — Rice supper — came yesterday — are going back next week — how I wish you were here I like the [illegible] very well just the — one for Ann I should think shouldn't you [illegible] —

Your own wife

July 24th 1854.

Dearest Annie

It is a wretched day since I am writing & I am sure the rain will suffer that if I had known that you were not coming home until this day week I should have left Bath. I am afraid I must feel bad somehow & feel guilty accordingly — and what reconciles me is that you are getting great wages. But that you do not have to work so hard as you would at home and perhaps you enjoy your work than better than you do farming. And another thing I suppose you feel that you have a good chance to get a little money. And you think you ought to stay — as to this you know better about than I do — I suppose you can calculate about what our expenses are in a day each I know you are a better judge than I. Therefore I will try to conform to your judgement — I sometimes think you are not working as much as you think you are. But this I will not worry about if your health is not good

It is a pretty good day today — we have got things to-rights. Today Tonge — Jane Thomas by Daniel Davis Charles Owen gave them all holiday because work by the earth you know I do not know what I will calculate to ask for what he does I reckon he will ask as much as it will be to — but I will see

Stay a getting along with the haying very well now
the boys all seem to be industried and try to do
as well as they can — when we were eating dinner
Walter says "we have got something to do this afternoon"
the Bracies boy says "well | we can good for us
to get in 2
I have got the north field all down and a going
loads from there this afternoon I asked Walter how
much longer he thought it would take to do the haying
he said that he thought about 3 weeks — It will cost a good
deal but we can't help it now Walter has got money for
him that he is a going to pay the men with Gerrard
sent us 20# but 20.# goes but a way little now
I have payed Lindsey 13# am a going to pay Butler
12.# soon. Harvey asked 4.# for shearing sheep
If we do not sell the wool we shall have to send to Gorham
for more money. I suppose you know that wool is
very low we have got to have a bbl of flour next week
Our expenses are a good deal notwithstanding I
try to be economical I have not got anything for the
boys since you went away only some aprons nothing
for mary but little for myself nothing but what was
absolutely necessary for me to have to be decent
but the children must all have shoes soon they have
been to meeting barefooted all summer I sent to
Bangor to you — to get them shoes & some for me
some I suppose I had to pay freight for
I wrote two letters and sent to Bangor to meet you
when I found that you was not coming home I sent to
Bangor and then back by Stan she did not

Mrs Turnbull has had her trial and was not proved guilty. They had a great time I can assure you the trial continued two days the last day the hall was so full of people that they went to the auditorium and that was full but I did not go think I should like to have gone if I had that a husband to go with I do not enjoy going anywhere without you not even to meeting I feel lonely - lonely. When Mr Judkins said that it was not evidence enough to convict Mrs Turner was such a shout that it made the meeting house ring - I have heard that Mr Burbank says that he shall leave town Mr Everett is connected with the newspaper Mrs Mortier told me cort that he sent flags to her to open Mrs K - draws and thinks Everett has disappointed himself so that he will not get over it very soon I have not time to write as much as I would like to when you get home I will tell you The Doc has to pay his lawyer 45. $

I must leave this note and get some supper Lucky is at Brownsville and is going to stay and help Almeda - Jane is not help enough Almeda is going to send Jane here to day till there is a place found for her I should like to have her a little while for I have had to work rather hard lately having company and all that is not used to it.

I received a letter from Nicholas Feb 13 -

[illegible] I had time to write more but I have got my work done but they want me to attend to that I shall not have much to do while I might as well send this to the P.O. by Charles I am so sigh I shall write again soon I feel some better than I was a while ago feel more willing to stay I guess

Peter do you think you shall come home I look hoping in August

Charlie wants to see his father

Josie is down to Fathers going to stay till after haying it makes my task much easier to have him away I expect they will make a baby of him

Mary begins to talk considerable says Rebecca Bill one she will go to the draw where your dog rots she is and say "see papa" "see papa" that is all she knows about her Father she is a very little Dimdt little girl I know she would love her father - sometimes she will go and climb into Pooter Lizzie Watkins's wagon put Carl I want to see her climb her father's knee Your Mother went to Bangor today to - cannot hear it to the Lebec bridge - I am all alone now perhaps you can imagine how lonely I feel but I have one consolation my children and riding to see you Good bye

Yours Lovingly Wife

Friday 26th 1859.

My dear Charles

It is now a little passed 11 o'clock I have been reading to day carried Mary down to Tilton she has not been down before since you went away I wonder if you feel as lonely to day as I do. If you do you feel bad. If it is as hard for you to stay there as it is for me to have you stay. I do not see how you can contain yourself to stay. But one reason that makes me feel so bad is that it seems to me you are needed so much at home. Our work does not go on as it does when you are here. You a good deal. Death has been quite unwell for two or three days passed. For Dr Hitt gave him some pills those together with a bad cold has made him quite unwell. It is a sorry to cost a lot to get our hay in. I do not object it will be as good when it is got as it is when you get it. I am thankful I have been so long reaping — and gleaning — for you to come home that I do not begrudge it. I reconcile myself to living without you, any longer than you can't. I want you till we see how we all get on. Can you tell how you are for life. I have a cough I have made up my mind that it will die it is rather I guess Father will come up here and would like to see me and see what effect that will have. I almost feel that I am wicked to tell you all our troubles when you can not help them I only want you not to be disappointed when you come home

that I feel that this is a hard way to get money but you for my part I choose to be poor we have not but a little while to stay here. We not much of this world's goods that we want to make us happy and wont it best to be content with what we have got I feel that I should be happy and perfectly contented if you were at home and was so well
I believe I did not tell you in my last letter that Father & Mother were here and spent the afternoon before Ann & the Doc went away Thursday also Mr Elder and Alvreda they all seemed to enjoy themselves and I tried to but my mind was with you. When we all sit down to your table to eat supper I could hardly refrain from tears I thought how you would enjoy yourself if you were here
Charles do you blame me for feeling as I do if you do I want you to forgive me and "I will try" as much as I can throw off that feeling and not care.
Monday P.M. about 3. o'clock Mary has just come along and says to me "with par par"? I told her yes I was writing to her father She does not know what it means to write to father but she has seen me writing & I have told her that I was writing to father so many times that I suppose that she thought of course I was writing to "par par" She calls you she is a dear little girl but has a very strong will of her own needs very judicious treatment and I guess she will make a good girl She begins to talk considerable It is quite a good hay day today and we have got 4 loads besides Walter the last of this week we shall expect 2 or 3 more if we have good weather we shall get pretty well along

whenever I have a letter he shows that he loves and respects you
with the saying this week
Sunday eve. I is not quite nine and I have got my work
done children washed and put to bed they both went to
bed quietly and pleasantly I never feel happyer than
when I am taking care of & instructing our children
I think that I can now see more than ever the need
of patience cheerfulness, and a heart of kind
ness and love together with many other qualities
I think that I feel a desire to keep trying to make a
better wife and mother (and I suppose that "patience
cheerfulness and a heart of kindness and love" are three as important
qualities for a wife and mother as there are - what
do you think? I am now in our bedroom the
folks have all gone to bed and I suppose I had better go out
and see if the doors are shut and see if all is right and
then go myself for I have to be up early in the morning
Before I forget I would like to know if you know how old
Miss Dora is don't you think she looks older for whom
than you do for me it seems to me that he does
I should think that he was older than she should not
Well I suppose I had better say good night. good night.
I wish I could kiss you when I say good night that came
in the morning instead of this making me feel lonely
for I feel lonely when I get up and when I get to bed and
all day long. I do want a companion to rest
lean upon for very far more than I want money
Charles how long have I got to live as I would -
It looks tonight as if we were a going to have dull weather
we have got a good deal to be thankful for

we are getting along very well with the hoeing today
say Mat that is to-day to-morrow if it is a
good day but our expenses are something fearful
about $6.00 a week board and all I guess Dallas tells
you Ray Ham come more for sure in very good spirits
I think that if he was well that he would enjoy staying here
Doc-Dewitt was pleased with this farm said if this farm
was in Ohio that it would be worth a great deal The reason
that why it would be worth more than here was because
of our long winters - How I do dread another winter
I shall some expect a letter from you tomorrow perhaps I shall
not get it till Friday If I did not have letters from you
more often I should sink — good night

Wednesday I have just received a letter from you
dated July 25th where in you say perhaps you shall
stay 6 months longer what shall I say!
what shall I do! I shall give up indeed
Charles why dont you come home
I cannot write for I do not know what to say
words cannot express my feelings — are you
out of mind when you say perhaps you shall stay
six months longer Dallas says that he cannot
stay I will try to wait patiently as I can till next
week when I get an other letter from you
Charles I do want you to come home do come home
I want you to come as soon as it will do to on account
of the cholera and warm weather
do let the money all go to grass I do not want any
of the wicked stuff I want you to come home
how I wish I could see you five minutes
when as my wife has left my bedboard

Direct to Ann Arbor

Mr Gould will be down in a week or two and will bring you home with him

Did you know that Mr Bill Hoyt was dead

Mr Bill Hoyt died very suddenly about a week ago last Tuesday

Dear Charles

It was only last wednesday that I finished a letter to you but I feel that I should like to write every day if I had time It is now ½ passed 8 the men are out in the kitchen I am in our bedroom talking with you They are getting along very well with the haying and we do have fine weather for it They think that they shall get the grass most all mown at this week. George & Walter can finish mowing with out getting in. Mr Austin will come and help get in They have got along much better than I expected I have not had any hurt at all I think it is the best hay season that I ever know But one thing makes me feel bad & that is to have the gray do so much raking Walter rides him to rake But there are many things that I have to think of and let pass for it would not be best to say anything O Charles how I do want you to come home not only because I want to see you but because as you are so much needed here to take care of your property Do not Let Isaac persuade you to stay any longer I want you to come just as soon as it will do for you on account of the cholera and very warm weather And I hope when you come you will be contented to live and die on this farm for I fear that if we go from here we should be worse off than we are here Every place has its difficulties to encounter Good night I kiss from the heart

My heart clings to you

I want you to have them to have your picture taken and send it to me

6th. It is Sabbath day 12. o'clock Walter Jane and Charlie have gone to meeting. Mary is now asleep and I take this time to write. I am thinking perhaps you are willing home hope you are telling that you are coming home soon

Our haying is most done. They will finish in two or three days I went down on to the intervale last night have not been down before this summer, our crops do not look very flattering but you know that we had a very late spring and I guess when you go over the fields you will say that we shall have some good fall feed for the fields do not look as they do when you were here I guess that you could have got a ton or more of hay, but it is the best that we could do for we had to take such as were to be got; and we could get none but boys - Mary had begun haying when we got your letter telling that you was not coming home at present But we can not expect things will go on as when you are. Walter does the best that he can - sometimes feels kinder down - "wishes that you had come home" &c - but gets along very well considering his health I never saw George as tired as he is now has worked real hard The boys have all tried to get the haying along and have worked well But the haying has passed now I will not say anything more about it except that Mr Austin says that he never saw such a good lot of hay in your barn not a single load but what he - and I reckoned - how much had to be payed out for getting hay about 50 $ besides board.

Shall have considerable grain to cut but suppose you will be at home before it is time to cut it won't you?

Charles I do hope you will think it best to come home

most full is all-all I do not know how to stop I want to keep talking with you, Come home, Come home, do just as soon as the heat of the weather is over don't you think that it will be best? I seems to me that it will not do for you to stay there till late in the fall - there come home you will freeze to death especially if next winter is as cold as last was and how can I think of living through an other winter without you - I can not - and I do not think you want me to - thats I do not want to live as I have this 18 months passed for money - money can not take the place of happiness and I can not be happy without you my whole heart is given to you - I feel that I want to live and die with you -

If we were very poor or so much in debt that you could take no peace nor comfort at home I should not feel as I now do about your staying there so long But I feel rather more reconsiled now than I did for I think perhaps it is not so hard for you to do what you have to there as it would to work on the farm - But I do hope you will be very careful of your health it seems to me that those hot days and nights - days & nights must take your strength and make you feel very languid - do be careful of yourself - your life and health is more precious to your wife and family - than to any one can tell Charlie very often says "why dont father come home I wish father would come home" &c &c

Josie does not say much about you I suppose that he does not miss you now - you have been gone so long Little Mary talks about father's letter that is all she knows or the most interest she has about father "yes pa" as she says - I know that it must be very hard for

Jennie is a very good girl to me and I am very much pleased with her she is very kind to me and I am very much pleased with her she is very kind to me and I am very much pleased with her she is very kind

... stay from your family so long. It is a mystery to me how you can stay – but I suppose you feel it to be a duty because the chance that you now have you can't get again and I feel that I am wicked to trouble you with my sad feelings and disappointment – but you must not think anything about it. You are so accustomed with me and know what a – I am. But let me be what I may – your life – health – happyness are precious to me and will be as long as I live – I believe that our country is about as good for us as any we could live in the vicinity of Ohio and if we did like a man of fortune to buy there – so I guess we had better be content where we are we have not got to stay any where long. I dont see your pitty Sam-Conant – I do believe he must feel dreadful as much as he has got home before now if he had good luck Walter has now got home – how I do wish it was you instead. I would hardly think you would want Walter and your wife to live here alone – during Lally is up to see us – you know about 5 o'clock I feel kinder lonesome I used to have rather a long day – do you recollect sundays when you do not go to meeting, and do you sometimes wish you were there at home whom many many times I have thought – "how I do want Charles at home" Charles this separating husband and wife I do not think much of – what do you say – This separation has been to me a lonely dreary day that has not been a single day since you went away, but what my heart has yearned after you perhaps it has been harder for me to have you give their for you to be away for I have not had much that I am new to take up my mind but every thing to make me miss you. I hope we shall never be thus separated as long as we live – Charlie did not come home in a going to stay at Fitters and go to school – stayed there last week he says that George Smith can read better than he can – says that he shall not learn so many bad words as he does at our school Mother says that he is a real good boy when he come home yesterday morning she says to me Mother I am a better boy at grandfathers than I am at home I guess I shall let him stay with school keep
Now as I had rather live in a little one roomed house and have but one dress and go without tea and coffee and

[illegible] I am a little afraid [illegible]
[illegible] I could talk with you [illegible]
[illegible] from home [illegible]
[illegible] Soldiers Aid Society [illegible]
[illegible] Mr. Barnes is to a sewing circle this afternoon [illegible]
[illegible] were they were I must go home and not single Charles
them, my feelings would keep choaking me, and
choaking me. It is a self-denying work for [illegible]
so long without your dear wife to. But perhaps
this separation, & disappointment is just what [illegible]
God only knows, Good night. May God preser-
ve your life and health, & return to the arms of your
wife and children good night my dear husband—
Friday evening. Just before I go to bed My dear Charles I am
lonely I feel like a child that has lost its mother
I feel that I think so much of and about you I
did not know as I was aware until now how much
my heart was given to you I feel that I think
more of you than I ought to what shall I do?
Wm Todd is in town again he and Mary & Harriet
have gone to Athens went some days called on
us as they went along they were all as happy as they could
be Wm especially they were singing Bells and I was
left behind to think of you away off
But I have had my share and it should make me

happy to see others enjoying theirs. And it does all I want to make me happy is to live with you and unless I can - I am lonely - and alone - with every body around me - there is a place in my bosom that no one but you can fill - I am saying this with tears dropping on to the paper that I am writing on but you think it best to stay there longer - I ought to try make you contented and happy there - and not tell you of my feelings - & I cannot tell you of them without telling you that I am lonely. But how can I try to content you that when I am so much over at you to come here my dear Charles ~~[illegible]~~ to overcome this lonely miss that continually hangs about me I have I have tried & tried but cannot drive it away I suppose I had better go to bed it is after nine and my head aches too Good night ~~[illegible]~~ good night - Saturday Night. My Dear Charles. I thought last night after I went to bed, that I ought not and would not write so much about my lonely miss. but how can I help it. Here I walk most all alone o'nights. How long are you going to stay I do feel sad and I can not overcome my feelings. I begin to feel that I cannot stay here much longer if you do not come home. There is not a cloud nor day but my heart bleeds through my eyes if you will tell me what to do "I will try" to do it. I have for a week or two passed them trying to think we could get along without your coming at present But my dear Charles I do feel that you must come. if you can for your wife than you do for many I know you do

will not do for you to come here after Christmas but if you have stayed so much longer than I expected you would when you went away - that my courage has got entirely discouraged — You know that when you first thought of going away - it was like taking my right arm - but I felt that it would do you good to go & that if you could go, and enjoy yourself you had been confined here on this farm a long time it was for the benefit that it would be to you that I felt that I must be willing. also that I must try to make every thing smooth & &c &c for you to get money. This separation costs me too much - to be payed in money (that is these are my feelings exactly — to say nothing of what it costs you Perhaps you will blame me. & so will Isaac and the rest of the family. But I have tried my best - best wishes I had in any thing to do. Indian sickness &c &c Quick marks discontentedness poor wood &c &c &c - Bears of various kinds all of which I was determined to press through with. And be glad that you could go away and have things go on well I tried to make those around me contented and happy - took all the little annoyances out of the way that was in my power — but now my courage has got discouraged and I feel lonely — lonely —. Had you rather have me like Mrs McClintock she was down to Hamilton the other day when the stage come in and told the stage driver not to bring Mac home for she did not want to see him. She was down town towards Bangor Had you not rather just ask with the circumstances that there are in your wife I think I tell; and the reasons of your staying - but I can't make it

satisfy me. I do not know as I blame you for staying as you have — and I have been trying to be willing that you should stay longer — but cannot make out —

I only guess I had better go to bed for it is after nine o'clock. Dear Charles It is about six — I went to meeting with Walter down road to walk with Mr Simmons — Walter has not got back expect him tomorrow I left George here to watch the cattle and he went off to get chickens and the cattle got in to the fields — they get in most every day our fences are just nothing. I expect Walter will get out of patience by this encouraged for the crops are all harvested

Mr & Mrs & Mary & Hannah have gone back home was Lord Hall. Charlie is known by Father — is a real good boy Father says he likes to stay. I guess he is learning a lesson too By & by when it gets to be a little cooler and the boys stay in the house more I mean to hear them read every day for all any thing else — I kinder dread to have Sally and her baby come back you know that to take an other child with ours makes quite an addition I do not want her to be sick here this winter and I hardly think Walter will be willing to stay Charles do come home in september won't you if you stay there an other winter my heart will break and it seems to me that it will not do for you to come home to take in the fall I do not want you to come home to sell it is so sickly do not suppose it would be safe to take the journey Have you heared from Sam = Clement — yet — what do you do for shirts — stockins &c &c = dont you sometimes wish you had a wife to mend your stockins — brush your cloths or do you get along just as well as you did when you had one I want you to tell me when you think you shall come home I am expecting you in september — if I should get disappointed again I do not know what I shall do — Perhaps I shall begin to look round. The house is now entirely still I am the only one that is not abed here I am in our bedroom alone — should'nt you think I should be lonesome — and sigh for companions — that is not what I want — I want my own companion that I can tell every thing to Charles it is the earnest prayer of my heart that you will come home just as soon as the warmer weather is over I will rest a little while and then go to bed alone as I have done this eight & 1/2 months I need God's help How my heart reaches after you

My Dear Charlie I have just got a good impression from the diarial of all that is dear. How good it is to get letters from you. I am now at Brothers Walter brought me down this morning going to walk back to night. Walter came down this P.M. and I went to Brownville is going to stay till next Monday - wish he could have got your letter before he went. I guess he will write to you as soon as he comes back his health is better than it was a while ago I do not know what he will think about staying at our house You seem to feel very decided that it is best to stay in Illinois Charlie I rather have you than money - won't you come home in September - I do not want you to come now while the cholera is prevailing so, had you not better come and sell things. let the farm to Mr or some thing any go back but that won't do I can not let you go back unless I go too - and that I do not want to do I feel that if you think it best to stay there as you have I ought to "Submit to my Husband" still the "sick House" is left. I do want you to come home - do come before you get sick - I have just got a letter from Mother to Lucy Lucy's Baby has been quite sick Marie diseased getting to be confined now, every day we have not had any rain to speak of for some time it is very dry here. Charlie won't you come home in September I have just been weighed and I 144 lbs I am not so fleshy as usual but health is good if I do not have to work like hard and I do not now The thermometer stands at 80° we do not have such weather as you have I feel very thankful that you are so well Lucy wants me to come to Bangor - if I could go and meet you I should like to go but to go without you I do not know as I should want to - I do not enjoy going any where alone - I feel happier with you than any where else you said that Walter & Sally could be companions - do you want me to have Sally take your place I don't know. Do come home you have got money enough do come home from your own wife

[* Mrs Rickar did not "Hold" Rivals]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Tuesday morning. I have been thinking
[illegible] circumstances all along and
have concluded in my mind that I would write
you telling how much you are needed at home
and if it does not make you think that it is best to
come right home – I will try and not say anything
more about coming home, I feel that you are
loseing money by not being here to see to and do your
own work yourself. if Walter was well things would
go on very different. I and consider how much it
costs to board and pay Walter and George, and how
little is done it makes me feel bad, and I guess it does
to Walter too. George you know is very slow. and since saying
he does not seem to have so much initial, I feel that if you
do not come home and do your falls work yourself
you will lose more than you can earn there, if you was
here to see for yourself you would think as we
Walter said this morning – when he was putting in tools
on that he did wish you would come home. for he did
not feel able to do what he must do if he stays out here
he said he sometimes felt that he could not go into
the work. he said that he was afraid that his health
would fail entirely. he said that he knew that he did
and could not help it more than he ought to
As for getting any one else to come here I do not know as

is of any use to you. I do not feel that I can stay here this winter as I did last: even if Walter should stay if you do not come home I feel that I must go down to Fathers. take Joseph and Mary. Let them live with you. if we do so it will cost a good deal it will cost at least $1.00 per week to pay them for board. you know that we should not want him to go there without paying for his board. There are a great many things that you must do to come home to us too. but if it is not any of it worked out &c = &c = You can not expect Walter to take your place, he does as well as he can. I do not like to have him troubled with all of our difficulties, and perplexities Now we have got these great open fires and are not going to have much of a fire in the stove in the spring it seems to me that they ought to be used as much as they are able to be this fall. don't you think so. and he is not able to use the axe and George alone on this great farm is nobody and to hire you well know is a thing impossible as well as very expensive &c &c &c &c &c &c &c &c =

I have so long been pleading - with all my heart ever since last March for you to come home and you still talk of staying six months longer - that I feel about discouraged. I do not know what to do. Still I do hope and I do feel that you will. come in September if your life is spared - Charles you have been gone so long that I sometimes almost feel that I never shall see you again. George has gone off I know not where to sup and the evening, he will not be worth $.12 ½ is worth nor nothing to us if he goes away evenings, he is a boy - he is not worth so much to us if he is not here to

I feel that the longer you stay away from home the poorer you will be. There are a great many looks in consequence of your not being here and the looks keep growing larger the longer you stay - I guess I have written enough for once. had better say good night and go to bed alone all are abed but George he is out - it is after 9 o'clock Sunday night. My feelings are such that I do not know as I ought to write. You know that you have sometimes told me - that I better not write when I did not feel in good spirits. I do not know but my spirits are well enough but I feel so anxious about you, that if I should let my feelings control my reason, I do not know what would become of me. I feel that I do not trust in God as I should. I should feel that He will do all things right. Even if we should never meet again on earth My Dear Charles I do feel that you will come home just as soon as it will do to on account of the war matter, if you do not come my heart will sink, and I know you do not want to disappoint me so - do you? I think that if you had fully known how much I have wanted you to come home you would have come before this time. I feel that Isaac is some to blame - but I suppose that things look very small down here and so they are compared to his business - How thankful we ought to be that we are all so well. Charles how happy I should be if you was at home. But now my mind is disturbed. some nights I can not rest nor sleep till after midnight - I feel so anxious - perhaps you will tell me "not to worry" but Charles if you was here you could help me to relieve them I do not think of your staying there through another winter

...ke. I hope that the next letter I get from you will
tell me that you are coming as soon as you think it safe
to on account of the cholera; Mrs Hopkins is quite sick has
...ail ever occasioned by change of climate. I suppose
you know that Mr Hopkins over at Ben Wilkes got home from Cal-
afornia took the Christmas fever and died a few days after
he got here. Good night. I suppose I should be getting to bed.

August 20th. Sunday night after supper. Jane is washing the
dishes, Wallace is in the sitting room reading, the children are down
the river to play and I am in our bedroom writing a letter I
have been to meeting today. Mr Jones came home to dinner
after meeting and spoke to Wallace and looked at me and
says to Wallace is that your wife? I think that it is about
time for you to think about coming home, does you?
Wallace told him that it was Mrs Rich and he made quite
an apology. Mr Collett preached very well to day. I hope
that I shall not have to go to meeting many Sundays
more, without you to go with. I rather have my own
Husband than any one else in the county by far with
me, are you glad that I am so well satisfied with it,
I am glad, wish you might have reason to be as well
satisfied with your wife. It is very dry here I do not know
as I ever knew it so dry, but not so warm, as usual at this sea-
son of the year, I guess it is not very sickly I have not heard
of much sickness. How anxious I feel about you, to be
very careful of your self and do come home as soon as you
think it will do to take such a journey. What as you will
come if your life is spared next fall? Charlie has just come
up to the table where I am writing and says "Will Father be with you
to come home. I don't want to look at the picture I want you
to be my Father" I suppose you have seen
in writing to me that I want to see my father" I suppose you have seen
a notice to that effect in two weeks. How I shall feel when I see you
coming, but I don't dare to anticipate — for I have been
disappointed once. Mary is a smart little girl but is very
obstinate, will, she is a Rich. I ask her where father is? sometimes
she will say in the draw and sometimes gone to Illinois. She
is learning to talk very fast. Charlie knows you
done much you went away as well as many
It is now 10 o'clock. I have got the children all
I can now see them all standing I love to look at them
they are asleep and ask God to bless them and make them
useful in this world and in the world to come, my children
what a work we have got to do, what a responsibility
think of these precious ones, immortal souls, in our keeping
given to us to train for time and eternity. I never had
felt the responsibility as I do now, how much wisdom
patience I need. I think I am much improved
they require more judgment than children I ever had
more or want of room. May God bless you and keep you

Lito August 5th Friday eve

Dearest Charlie

Since I sent my letter to the P.O. I have received one from Mother & Lucy. They said that they had just been writing to you - and feared that they had said too much about your coming home - and wished me - to tell you - if I could feel so, and I surely can if there is any danger of your coming home this fall and I fear that there is if you do not come in September not to feel that you must come - Lucy says that Charlie may come there this winter, and they told me just what - I have been wishing could be done - that perhaps - Walter & Sally - could keep house - and I with Josie & Mary go down to Fathers, and I think that I shall bring it about if I can - if you don't come home - and if you fear any danger - in changing climate in the fall - and as I told Isaac when he told me that perhaps you would stay all summer - that it would - do for you to come home in the fall I do notwithstanding I so much want you to come home not want you to run any risk - Walter has concluded today that he will stay till March - if you want him to

It seems to me and has all summer - and so it did when you talked about staying till May time. That you are not going what you anticipate, but if you get home well that is all I will ask. If you conclude to stay - you must not worry any about home. The only thing that will reconcile me to your staying is that if you are at this season - in the fall - I fear you will be sick, if you are The Doc has been here & might thinks you will be better in a few days - it is only worms - that ails him. The other children are very well, and the most that ails me is that I feel so unreconciled to your staying, so long away from home, & my feelings will not comprehend but whether this is just what I need - some other tells me and I fear it is so - that I think too much of you But thinks you are dearer to me than - I was going to say - all the world besides - but I know dear enough - My Mother is here to night came up this afternoon, we have been talking about my going down to Fathers this winter - I think I shall if I consistently can, if you don't come home, Lucy & Mother have written to me to think that I can go to Bangor and come - before it gets to be cold weather and I think

I shall go I feel that it will do me good to go away from home, and try to change the tenure of my feelings. I suppose I had better go to bed it is after 11. I have not stayed away from home – except to work Fathers, one night since you and I went to Bangor three years this winter. They are saying to have a great time at Dover to morrow, Convention and Circus – That is when Mr Rider has gone –

I thought I had better write this to send by tomorrows mail, if it does not go tomorrow it can not till next Tuesday. Good night my beloved Charles –

I will write some in the morning if I have time I want you to get this when you get my other letter for I fear that will trouble you, now you can do as you feel is best; I hope you will think it is best to come home, but if there is any danger – I do not want you to come, and I fear there is if you do not come in Sept – Good night – Good night

Saturday Morning. We are all unusually well to day this morning. I hope Josie is getting better, he has had spells of severe pain in his bowels –

Every day is going by – to the Convention and Circus – I do not know yet who that Letter will go or not, he wants to. Good by

Alvina

I hope you will think it best to come home in Sept – if you don't come in Sept I fear to have you come till spring, you can have a good chance then to decide just as you wish to.

Milo Me August 27th 1854.

My own very Dear Charles.

It is Sabbath day - a little fussed over Walter is not very well and does not go to meeting - Jane & Charlie have gone. Little Mary is now astride - joint out to the door - he is not very well yet but worse Walter has not had any of those spells of pain - since Sunday hope he will not have any more. he has grown some poor Mary is growing fat every day. She is very well now a days - I often think - how you would like to see her. She would love her father. She will sometimes follow Walter down to the barn - and round the house she will call after him - and Rider - Charlie is a good little boy feels quite interested about learning - now a days. I think that it will always be hard for him to learn but I think he will know as much as many others that can learn easy. If you do not come home this fall I want him to go to Bangor this winter, and go to school there. You know it is a great ways for him to walk, here at home. I think it would be best - in every way - for him to be there than at home if you are not here I have been looking over your old letters - that you sent me when you was in the woods - and remembered to day and I thought - while looking them over - how thankful I ought to be - that I had such a home - and such friends - to care for me - there is many heart aches & sorrows than ever be yours I fear - but look back

to days - that is - till we [illegible] & I shall be happy enough - if you will come home this fall - was not very sick - Dear Dear Charles

Sept 1st

Sept 2nd

Sept 3rd

Sept 4th

Sept 5th

Sept 6th

Sept 7th

ful I must to be- that God has so well smiled our hearts I feel more than ever a desire- to try- to make things around our home and "fireside" pleasant- comfortable and happy- I realize that a wife and Mother, can do much towards making a home pleasant or unpleasant:

29th Wednesday evening. I have got our children to bed. and I feel to night- like flying to you- but as I must stay and try to be content: Mary & Hattie said have been here to day, came last night and will stay a week, they are two of the best girls in town, don't you think so: but dear Charles all the dear parents- brothers and sisters we have- cannot make a sacrifice- to live with one whom I have chosen for a partner, in life. my dear I cannot get over- or rather throw off- my feelings- I never in my life felt- as I now do- but perhaps I shall feel better by & by- I think I shall go to Bangor sometime in September. You know I have stayed right- here for a long time. finally I do not enjoy going without you. Jonie is some better but is not well- he has a crying spell every night the worms come up and go to work I suppose- when he lays down- and makes him have severe pain in his bowels last night- I was awake more than two hours- I thought to myself last night- when I held him in my arms how willing you would be to help me- if you were here. But I have made up my mind (however hard) to try to endure it. If you think it best- all things considered to stay till next spring- well it must be so I suppose

wednesday evening. No letter has come to night - but it will Friday. Thanks you do not know how much your weekly letters support me. I do not know what I should do if you did not write often. Walter and George are cutting bushes on the island just above the old bridge you know where I suppose. The grain is not quite ready. They will go to work on the grain next week. Walters health is better some - than it was. but is quite not well now. he is taking Dec Dewitt medicine don't know as it does any good. Charlie is down to granelfathers - was a going to write me today with a letter - but has not come. so of course there did not any come. Josie is not very well. but has a good appetite. am not doing anything for now but shall soon. if he does not get better. Mary is a smart little girl is learning to talk very fast she says that Father is gone to Illinois some times she will say that he is in the draw - I am all well except - my heart - that troubles me considerable can you tell me what to do for it - I have tried a number things - or resorts - for it. but none have the desired effect. I expect there is something in Illinois that will cure - as you feel interested in my behalf - I think you will try to procure the remedy which will effect a cure - It continues to be very dry - we have had a little rain - but only enough to - just - lay on the ground. This month has been very cold for Aug - seemed more like Oct - than Aug - I have almost had frost - it is not so dry here as in many other places.

Sunday afternoon. I felt so sorry and grieved
am thankful to hear you are well. I will try to look
out for wood. Wood and G— are getting some wood now
they are cutting alders down in the swale— Mr Hall is
some better than it was Mrs is considerable worse
O Charlie how my heart "leaps with joy" when I think
you will come home this fall
I have just read a part of your letter to Walter
he says that he will stay till you come home and do
the best he can He told me to tell you that he had got
the alders half out from the bridge to the woods— that
it made the farm look a good deal better
Our corn is not a going to be much in the first place
you know the ground is not very good— and then in
the spring it was very wet— now it is dry— but not so
dry here as in many other places, I guess we shall
have a pretty good lot of oats— potatoes— fair corn
and far below— Charlie, I do hope you will not
think it best to stay another winter— If you do I think
I shall go down to Fathers to winter— I feel that I
cannot stay here— as I did last winter— but I guess
I shant have to— for you will come home won't you
I wonder what I had better do about going to Bangor
I wish I could go and meet you— I do not know
what to do about going It will cost 3— or 4— dollars
If you do not come but you will, Charlie had by all means
go to Bangor this winter he needs a man to speak
to him once in a while Josie is some better to day than
he was yesterday— he is not sick but not well— grows
poor and pale I am giving him Vermifuge now
I expect it will bring the worms away in a few days
Josie goes out doors— and plays some— but is very
restless nights I have been up and down with
him every night for more than a week— sometimes
when he and Mary are both crying together— with
night— will I think of you— and take care
of them the best way I can— I suppose that before this
reaches you— you will have heard all about Scott
how she has had an attack of cholera morbus— but I suppose

Sunday night 6 o'clock. Tom is sick in bed. Lucy is drinking milk and I am sick & have nothing and fretted all day Tom is just sick enough to be very troublesome - and it is the hardest work to get him to take medicine of any thing I ever did. Today I gave him some Peruvian bark to hold him and turn it down - I did not know as he would ever get his breath again My dear Charles how much I do want you to come home I can not live without you much longer I am not most mortified. Charles I do feel that this is a bad way to get money - unless we are so poor that we can't not get enough to keep us from starving

Walter went up to Brownsville this morning after Sally and to go to smiling - has not got back yet - perhaps he won't come to night - I never felt more lonely in my life than I do to night. I do not feel it my duty to live as I now do - I cannot help my feelings - if I could know that we should all be well till next spring I could feel more willing for you to stay - but that we cannot know. To have the children sick - and no Charles to lean upon - I sometimes feel that it is more than I can bear Charles I want you a great deal more than I want money - Why won't you be discouraged My mind is in such a state I guess I better not write more to night perhaps I shall feel better to morrow Good night

Monday night- 20- is not quite 9 so I will write a few words Mattie & Sally got back about 11 o'clock Sally is very well and happy- And Walters countenance has brightened since she came back- they have now gone up to bed But I am disappointed in my solitude- Charles how dare you a going to require me to live so- I cannot live so much longer My dear Charles I know you do not want me to O how every thing of this world does look to me you'd might- dearest- Charles Tuesday- I have been washing to day. Had a letter from Bangor this forenoon came up yesterday- inclosed in it was a piece of Isaac's letter to Mother- Mother says that- Isaac says that- you talk of coming here in October and going back- That I know I cannot be willing to have you do- now dear you want me to be perfectly unhappy Charles if I could love money better than I do you I could be willing for you to stay, and stay- if you wanted to- But Charles if you only knew how unhappy- and disconsolate I am and I cannot make myself happy and contented at all I can do I know you would want- I come home- I sometimes reason the case with myself- and try to be contented- flatter myself with the idea that- I can go to Bangor and stay a week up to Almondis- and stay a while- and stay at Father's all winter &c= &c= but cannot- make it satisfy me- all I can do- there is nothing that will satisfy me but- to have you come home. Charles have I not been reasonable? I feel that- I have. I asked Walter

saturday what he would ask for staying here this winter - he said about 15 $ - pr month - Provisions are very high flour from 11 $ to 12 $ - butter from 20 cts to 35 cts pr pound if pr chance It will cost a great deal to board both his wife and child also to have him sick here - as provisions are so high But they have got their minds putty much made up to stay here till next spring Walter is willing to stay and Sally has got her mind made up that she is going to be sick here - If I was in the habit of regretting what is passed - How much I should regret that you did not come home before leaving or in the spring for I do not believe you are making much above your expenses - but I do not know you know that is this leaving ones wife and family to get money I certainly do not think much of - just like as not you and I will die and leave this money you are now earning for our children to squander about - or to squander away I do think you are very much more needed here at home to influence & guide them now - I realize fully why you stay there so long and I know that you feel that it is a chance to get a little money but think how much it costs - I assure you that I can never be as happy again as I was before you went away but perhaps I shall - if you ever get home again You tell me that what I think I can do that I can do that is just what I have tried to do ever since you began to think about going to Illinois but now

Dear Charles I can't tell you how glad I am to get your letter - I was beginning to think you had forgotten me entirely - I am very glad indeed that you are getting along so nicely - I am very glad that you like your work - I am sure you will succeed - I am very glad that you have got your health back again - I am very glad that you have got your health back again - I am very glad that you have got your health back again

Belo Mc Sept 10th 1854.

Dearist Charles

It is now about ½ passed 8. I had just begun to write to you — and Margaret came in. He was lonesome at home so came down here to stop a little while. He is not so well now as he was a while ago is tired discouraged, and very nervous. I pity him. Sally and Walter have been to meeting today and I stayed and took care of all the babys so do not feel as tired as I did last Sabbath. I do not mean to feel so bad any more if I can help it. But cannot help feeling sometimes. I received a letter as usual from you last week dated Aug 25. I am sorry that perhaps you will be at home to Thanksgiving — O how thankful I should be. There is nothing I want more than to have you come home. But if you do not come in Nov I do hope — and it seems to me that you had better come in Dec. But I will say no do as he willing to do as you think best. I suppose Walter will not want to go into the woods as any where else — till after Sally is sick. she ex pects to be sick the last of Dec or first of January and I suppose that if they stay till Dec they will want to stay till after she is confined. If you come in Nov or Dec I shall not go down to father's to live rather not go. I want you to come home & die.

It is now ½ passed eight. I must tell how

It is now ½ passed eight. I and W have gone to bed dear A I am sitting here alone & don't know of any ones company that would make me any happier than yours. I am never happier than when I am with you I love to think of the days months and years we have spent together guess that there are few that live any more unitedly than we have all things considered, what do you say? and I hope and pray that we may live to love and respect and be a comfort to each other all of our lives I feel that there is much for me to do — with myself — to make myself what I may, or can be. God helping me.

How much I want you at home to talk with about myself my faults when I do or say things that are wrong or right. I want to go to Charles with the contents of my heart. but I have a Heavenly Father. to go to. Who will hear all. O! what a Father and protector He is. dear Charles don't you find Him to be. If you have not will you go to Him to night and He will be your Father. He has promised that He will. and you know you can go. dear Charles it has long been the sincere and earnest prayer of my heart that we may bow heart in heart — together. to our Preserver —

I suppose I better go to bed. it is now after 9 I wonder what you are doing at this time perhaps writing to me I'll good night. The room is getting cold and it is so cold here that it is not comfortable without a fire all day. good night, my head reaches to kiss you —

Tuesday evening. Here I am all alone. how my heart reaches after my own dear husband but I must control my feelings. It will not do to give away to them. I am flying to go to Bangor going to-like Mary with me. I am join her Charter of Mothers. - But if I was going with you how much more I could enjoy I have been thinking to day. that perhaps it is all for the best that you have stayed along for we shall not raise much with anything to what we usually do Sunday night we had a very hard frost that killed every thing that frost can kill we have a number acres of oats that are green and our corn is not ripening to be much But I hope you will not think it best to stay there all winter. how I do want you to come home - sometimes I can hardly "contain my self" still I feel that I must do as you think best. As for living here with Mr. and Sally I have decided that I can not. It is hard enough for me to see and have to bear - what I have to from my children - without their associating with other folks. and it is not pleasant to have this little old folks looking on all of the time I know it will be hard enough down in Fathers but I shall not feel as I do here - But I hope and hope you will come home and we can have our own family by themselves again. I have not heard and heard of this way of living I suppose I better not sit up much longer it is most 11 - perhaps I shall not have much more time to write - till I get to Bo - I shall write to you from there I calculate to go Thursday perhaps I shall mail this at Bangor - shall expect a letter from you to-morrow good night

Wednesday evening after Lady

I have been getting ready to go to Bangor & Aroostook - Expected to go to-morrow - have not got your letter of this week - shall get to-morrow after train comes in to the village - if one came if it did not come to-day it will Friday

Walter is getting along with the work very well now - his health is much better than it was in Augusta. Feels interested as any one can for another. Guess he will be glad to stay here this winter. I want you to do as you think best about coming home. If you think there is any danger of bringing your cough on again - to hard as it will be for me to be willing to have you stay I rather you would stay than come home and be sick Victor Sargent - got home to-day.

Josie - is picking up fast does not look much as he did 2 weeks ago. I suppose that if you do not come home no better all some of the chaps. had one we have 25 lambs My fun is so poor that I can hardly write and it is late will write again soon — from Bangor. The last I heard from B Percie was sick yet - good by - good night - dearest Edward Thom I am out of patience "Pat is going to Bangor" Albina

Bangor Me. 21st 54

Dear Charles

You will see from the heading of this that I am still at Bangor. Since I have been here Mary has been quite sick with an attack of bilious Inflammation. She is better this morning & hope she will be able to go home tomorrow, but she has quite a discouraging time since she is a step mother to the children she is inclined to keep a good deal

Lucy's dear little Lucie is most willful has a disagreeable mind & believe the Doctor thinks he will get well rather a sad Lucy and Lizzie get most discouraged about him he is very poor, does not look much as Mary does. I hope Mary will be able to go to-day for I begin to feel anxious about home and if she is going to be sick I want to be at home, but I think she will be well in a few days she has always been a well child you know, nor she has never been sick any day from every spell and hardly this fall.

Dear Charles I do hope you will be careful of yourself especially your chest & will try to do the same. I am very well now today I expect Lizzie is a letter for me from you at home I see, in a hurry to get it.

Father has had a letter from James since I have been here. I have not spent much money since I have been here - I do not feel like spending money unless it is absolutely necessary and have you away in Illinois earning it for me - I can not spend such dear bought money for any thing I can possibably do without - I reckon" Sam and Elias are in rather straitened circumstances just as you know more about it than I do. You know Samuel cannot sell his toys as he calculated to - Can you send money from Illinois without discount? If you can - And you think of staying till spring I guess you had better send me a little to pay George. I do not want to ask S - and E - for any more money if I can help it - they have so many ways for money - Perhaps we had better sell a part of our wool the sheep were not washed, and I do not know as the wool would keep as well, shall see to it when I go home. I shall not determine what to do about going to Salters to stay this winter until I hear what you say about it.

Elias is going to housekeeping in a few weeks as soon as they can get ready. Marie is real smart I guess Elias has got a good wife, would be willing to conform to his circumstances I like her very much, what I have seen of her

but I do not feel that she can die one more well. because I am so ignorant, awkward &c &c
Evening of 13 - Mary is now sleeping very quiet
Doc Maclure has been here today says that if
she has no appearance of dysentery in the
morning I can go home with her. I shall leave
this for Mother to fill for I need to go to bed
so as to be up early in the morning. I shall
write again soon. good night
From Your Sincere & ever affe
Wife.

Friday afternoon 2 P.M.

Written by mother to C. Rich & Isaac Morley.

Albert has not filled out the paper I see so
I will add a little. She went off in the Stage this
morning — Mary was very much better tho' not
quite well — we expect to hear tomorrow whether going home
made her sick again — She is a smart knowing little
girl tho' apt to be impatient & fretful — needs calm,
quiet but firm & constant attention seems much needed
to guide for what she considers a good reason — She seems
uneasy homesick perhaps the first day or two that she was here
(I think she was not quite so. When she came) but she was quite
good the rest of the time — little Pierce is more pettish at
& just as fat as a corpse
the present than ever I did see — she is a little better to-
day, & today but we have thought him a little better & then
he'd get worse again so many times that we dare not

Alma feels much reconciled to your leaving since there is [illegible] of going to her father's they think it is perhaps the cutting for her as if she could have she must trust every thing to Walter & Josephine is a good girl & will tell him but I shall be anxious to hear for minds if he has been able to do so very little more I think & dare say that he asks a high price (perhaps a dollar) a month for the whole time — I will certainly see more to board them his wife & child than he thinks — or will be willing to allow I rather like to become such a multiplicity of attends of things for any body & every body to do what they please with you know how it is Betsey [illegible] part of the harness & another person something else — but there is this thing to be considered there is nothing of all the things about there of any great value — Walter will ride about some considerable but he'll take good care of the creatures, I guess — he would like to break the red colt — They had when I came away 72 sheep & 25 lambs — would it be well to sell a lot of them Meat of all kinds is high — & fodder probably scarce — Though I can't think that there will be a great no cause to have any alarm this winter — you left about washing & Mending your Mother I am afraid that you suffer yourself to go quite to [illegible] probably dress'd there is no use in it

21st. I have been contemplating to write a little to my far away boys, but don't think of any thing special just now only to say if such men as Skuyler, Crane &c. fall should not I have some fears for even my boys but oh! we hope better things of you — Let him that standeth take heed lest he fall — please accept all the expressions of love & good will & sapient counsel and more than I am capable of writing, or of thinking. Continue to let us hear from you often Evans there is got a great deal of money to pay before Feb but that he supposes he can raise 10, dollars as you can owe & if they intend to go down don't want to take all the family with him can't tell always by Ex talk — I guess they'll get along with a little

Lilo Maine Sept 25. 1864

Dear Friends.

It is Saturday night. our children are all asleep. Boys in the Arundel bed. Mary in the middle. I got home yesterday. Mary stood the journey home as well as I expected she would. I was very glad I did not stop at [illegible] on Monday. It was a very comfortable day to come yesterday

Sunday night. I did not write much last night. Mary was sick and I left to take her. We were about the same to day. The diarrhea does not follow the bark but her stomach and bowels are all out of order and she has no appetite. wants to drink. Lieut has been here this P.M. he thinks she will be better in a few days — and so do I. as soon as her stomach and bowels get regulated. Last night I gave her some charcoal. The morning she was taken sick a Rains girl that lives next door to them gave her a peach. and I did not know it till she had eaten it. Lucys little boy is quite sick yet. It would not come unexpected to me to hear that he was not living. though the Doc thinks. as he told Lucy. that he will get well. and perhaps he will. I suppose that there have been children saved. that have had the disease as long as he has. the poor little boy has pined away to almost skin and bone. How different I

feel as I do now. Life and health seem what I need to-day more than ever before. How little it takes to destroy life and health. How quick we are taken from time into eternity.

When I got home Friday I found as I expected a letter from you dated Sept 11th. How glad I am that you think of coming home this Fall. But I keep fearing and fearing you will be sick. But you can tell better about that than I. How I do want you to come home. and seems to me that it will be for your interest to come. Taking all things into consideration if it won't make you sick. and perhaps there is really no more danger than at any other season. do come. do come. how happy I shall be. But something tells me to be careful how I tell my anticipations. for I know not what will be. I know I have let my feelings have too much influence over me so much so that nothing looks to me as it used to — But perhaps when you get home I shall feel as I used to again. I have had a great deal of care and anxiety since you went away. The children have been sick more since you went away than ever before. and I have not the mind or fortitude to bear all these things that Almeda has. you know.

Sunday evening Mary is decidedly better than she was yesterday would come but I fear

Sunday I will have to have a fire

when she saw the boys coming. I had a fine visit
a good visit at Bangor. I did not expect to enjoy
my visit as I should to go with you - I will go with you
next winter and finish my visit. Charles, what
dear friends we have I realize it more now than
ever before I feel that I am the "littlest" of them all
But if I have not had the advantages of the rich sisters
then, Mother and Lucy. But if I can not have advan
tages I can have a character - The children are cry-
ing and I must go. I do want some of your
assistance in taking care of them It makes me
grow old to have so much care, and I suppose I
am a little nervous too But really Charles it is a
great care to have the whole care of three children
day and night especially when they are sick. Since
Mary has been sick I have been up and down up
and down - night after night. Well I must go to bed
It is after 9. good night. I do hope I shall not have
to say good night to you many months more away
in Illinois good night dearest of all the dear ones -

Monday afternoon I am now writing with
Mary in my arms. She rested very well last
night and is out in my lap most all of the time
I have been thinking and talking over - our
wedding day and days since then. Father has played away
$56.40 and he says that his bill from the time
he came till the 10 of Oct 84 $ about $10. or 12 $ to
come out yet Dallas board - She was here 8 weeks

Last spring since she came this home she has worked for her board but will not much longer only till Mary gets well for I am able to do all of my work myself You can tell how much we are owing Samuel & Elias as well as I can you not? and I will guess we are owing Gould $10. the boys you can guess at $5. Brown the horse man George is most payed we do not owe him more than 5 or 6 $. There is Uncle Mose to pay most all of the other bills are payed I guess we had better buy wood rather than keep George much longer. you see we have to pay him 12 $ pr month besides his board which is at least 6 $ making 18 $ pr month and I think we can buy more wood for 18 $ than he can get. don't you? But we will do the best we can about wood the open air Sarah I suppose he will take them away before it is time to put them up Charles haven't you got money enough to pay this? I am willing live on bread and potatoes all winter if you will only come home. I wish you would come in October it will be pleasanter to travel in October than Nov or Dec and if you do not come by the last of Oct or first of Nov as Mr Platts will not have time to find another place if he wants to before Sally will not be able to move, she expects to be sick the first of January or last of December. Our crops are not a going to turn out very much this year but we are as well off as other folks. I have just asked Watts when he had rather you would come home he said the sooner the better as he could have time to look around a little before snow come.

Charlie and Josie are very well now I asked Charlie which he rather was on Board with Uncle Lucy Uncle Samuel Uncle Elias or Father — He says "Father I guess"

It seems to me that as you are coming this fall you had better come in October. I do come I am in a hurry now. I can hardly wait. Good night I am a going to go to bed that I may sleep the sooner to night. I shall get a letter from you wednesday.

From your own wife

Bangor Sept 2d 1854.

Dear Charles

It is snowy, but I will begin a letter to you. I received a letter from you Tuesday morning Sept 1st. Thanks to you for coming in October – the last if not sooner. It seems to me that it will be best for you to come as soon as the last of Oct. Walter said that he wished you were coming the first of Oct. Thanks I do want you to come as soon as is convenient, and have sent you two gone Tonz enough. O how I do want you to come and just put it off till Vacation Dear Charles I am so lonely. Lonely. I can not describe the feelings of my heart. I went to Bangor hoping to get a letter when I got back. But no there is nothing that will or can quiet this aching heart of mine. I feel that it is wicked to [illegible] as I do but how can I help it. Here I sit alone, how I wish you had a party and here I am alone, and perhaps you are alone too. What is it that separates us I will tell you – it is a little money. How easy it would be for me to live in a log house and live very plain and have only one decent dress to what it is to live as I now do. Dear Charles I cannot describe the feelings that dwell in my breast.

You have got me into a fine scrape. I have written a little before. You have got two letters from me and this is the third. I am ashamed to write so much about myself. I will stop and write about you. I am glad you are coming home. I am glad you are coming home. I am glad you are coming home.

Mary is getting better. but is very troublesome. it takes me most all of my time to take care of her. there has not been a night for a week but that I have been up and down 4. 5. 10 times during the night. last night Charlie had to get up two times to night. Josie is up. I sometimes get most worn out with so much care and fatigue. I suppose I shall have to go to bed. for I do not know how much I shall have to be up before morning. Good night.

Thursday morning. Sally and I are sitting here in the kitchen talking and sewing. I am knitting stockings to keep your feet warm this winter. There has been a sheep drowned here this S. We wish you was here to talk with her, or we wish that we could know what you wanted do if you were here. I know one thing you would have done you would not have had 10 or 12 poor lambs they were not taken care of at shearing time we were expecting you home in July and so thought to wait till you got home. but now we must make the best of it I suppose. The drowned will not take the lambs. of the kind with short wool such as ours with them we have concluded as we are so short for money to sell 10 such. and I expect they will take the best ones for 2½ $ lambs for 1/ — 10 lambs thanks. There is not a day passes but what you are really needed at home especially with your chil-

dear this afternoon She that was Mrs Fox was
here and took tea. and I was really ashamed of
Joseph. that is you do not know. how much I do
want you to speak to the children sometimes. I do
have my hands full. I certainly do think you
are needed more - to influence them now than
they need money - But perhaps I do not know -
I do want you to come as soon as the last of Oct. and
you and work it to be safer for you to come before
it gets to be so very cold -
Friday eve 7. The family have all gone to bed but me -
it is rather a still night. the wind blows like fall. how I
wish you were at home. It does seem to me that you had
better come before it gets to be so very cold. don't you
think so. Mother has been this afternoon to see the Farber
girl farm. she likes the farm. but the objection is
there is no road only what he makes in the winter
he will not buy at present if at all. I have been alone
with my children this afternoon Sally went with Hattie
as far as Mr Hamlins. O how I long to have my own family
together and alone again. Mary does not seem to get well
but I hope she will after she gets over her cold. she has a very bad
cold. I am a going to soak her feet to night and if it suits you
now as I had better say good night. Charles I hope you will
come by the last of Oct. I thought this P.M. as I was sitting
here with our children around me what if you should
come right up to the door --

It is Sunday night, and the last day of September 1895
Walter and Sally have gone to bed and I am alone as usual though I do not feel so lonely as I sometimes do, and I do not know why it is unless it is that I feel that it will not be many nights more before you will be sitting by this table with me. Don't this thought sound to brighten and cheer my spirits. Yes it does I do not believe it is natural for any woman to live without their husband and visit often. I suppose you will get yourself a new overcoat before you get home and perhaps some under shirts, you will be sure to dress very warm. Perhaps you had better get some cotton flannel when you get to Bangor to make yourself shirts and drawers I hope you will come by the last of October because it will not be so piercing cold, perhaps you have forgotten how cold it is here. Father and Mother came up here to stop a few minutes, and I persuaded them to stop to dinner where any one is here I always think of the one that belongs to the foot of your table. Walter and George have been getting wood today, work after supper this week they are going to have a yoke of Bradens oxen to pair with ours to draw over on the ground, next week I guess they calculate to get wood. Mary is much better than she was, she is cutting her eye teeth - cannot be well till they are through I suppose - My headache a little so I guess I had better go to bed - good night - I will call to see you tomorrow -

Sunday, most twelve. Walter and Sally have gone to meeting and I stay to take care of the children. the girls are both asleep now. Charlie is making figures on the slate Joseph is down to Grandfathers. It is a bright pleasant day. how I wish you could come home before cold weather comes it would be so much pleasanter for you I dreamt of meeting you away somewhere last night and we were glad to see each other

Dearest Charles

Do I dare say it, now that you
wish I could be with you tonight. How I should love
to hear you say of this good Friday that we
have been taking tea today. But I shall save
a kiss for you to eat when you get home
How much I do want to know how you feel tonight
are you tired? how I should love to do something
for you to make you comfortable and happy.
My Dear Charles I want to be your wife. I do feel
that I want to live and die with you. Charles I
want to be a good wife - one that you can enjoy
and be happy with. I think that there are few
married people that enjoy each other as much as
we have, and we know not but our lives will
be spared to live many long years together yet.
I have been sorry a hundred times that I have written
so much of my feelings, that I have had this
communication for I feel as though have only hurt
what you. It is so natural to go to you with
everything you know I always do when you
are at home. That it really seemed that I
could write just as I felt. But when you get home
I will tell you all. and I know you will forgive me
for what makes you dear sigh that I do sigh

I like a nice way first you go about more, I want you to enjoy a visit and bring some home here. It is now 11 o'clock and I had better go to bed and must say good night.

Sunday morning. I found I took cold and had a headache and I have not been out. I'm fortunate that I like to be by myself considerable, for if I did not I do not know what I should do. Walter & Sally have always been in the habit of going to bed early. I know I shall be sorry when you get home. I keep romantic thinking as much as I can, for I know not but disappointment will come in some form. How glad I am that you are coming here this fall and I do think it will be for your interest to come don't you think so. Provisions are very high. We had a bbl of flour last week for which we had to pay $10.12½ – for bbl butter is 25 & 30 and it would cost us a good deal to board Walter's family this winter. O how glad I am that you are coming. I suppose you will receive this just before you start. I shall expect you a little the first week in November but not but a little. I expect Walter and Sally will go away the last of this or first of next week then Lizzie and I will be alone till you come.

I have been to meeting today. heard Mr Arms preach, do not expect to go again till you come the way is some skittish — should be afraid to have George drive. I expect when you get home you will have something to do. to learn the colt the manners Walter and George have been plowing and cultivating corn. Monday and Tuesday, over on the knoll. George is very slow, slow in action and he does not try in to earn as $11. per month every thing works you — I feel some afraid of your health fearing you cough will come on coming home in the fall — but you can be very careful — people do come from that vicinity in the fall.

I do not expect to write again unless your letters call me to Your Letters are a great comfort to me — if I could only hear every week, that you was well, and what you did — it would be worth a great deal to me —

My health is good but I sometimes feel worn out with so much care and anxiety — when we are all well I get along very well.

I do not know as I have anything more in particular to say — We are all very well. Charlie is getting to be a great boy. is a lady — if you was at home he would do considerable work. Walter is a very good hand to pick cherries, you know

he is not used to them, he does not say
much to them in any way. Mr Ritter and
Ed Tuesday are going to Bay City tomorrow he is a
going down to see the Doc about his hip he is
afraid that the sore on his hip is a cancer
and will have to be cut out. If I had charlie
ready perhaps they would let him go down with
them, but he would be sorry then to leave them
and I do not know as he had better go now
you are coming home so soon, he will want
to come home with you where you come, and I
shall be lonesome without him, after he and I
go away. It will cost something to pay his
stage fare down and back.
I was a going to write to Mattie and Guy to see what
they say. I had a letter from Mattie and Guy last
wednesday. Percie is getting better, good night again

This is from Your own Loving
Wife
Alvina C. Rich

Fitchburg Nov 12th 1874.

Dear Charles,

I have just received a letter from you dated Sept 26th Answering the letter I wrote in this Village. I have been thinking today what to write about home doings my work taking &c. two different ways I am "accommodated" from Mrs Harwood I do not mean in boarding — Husband gone particularly I feel perfect confidence in my husband I know he will not get drunk, run into bad company and I know he thinks of me and my children I can feel that I am not forgotten. How much I have to be thankful for, I know I do not realize how many blessings surround me.

It has been very pleasant for a few days passed Walter and I say have been playing for a few days passed — have not got quite done, he says must work to do. I have written to you that Walter was going away. George a going to stay till you got home George has got a chance to work at the Iron works for his board & tuition — two months for $12. per month and he wants to go. George has worked here about long enough, he is not interested and is so slow — I think he better go — and I suppose he will he will stay here only this week out — Walter has been to see the Parents this afternoon

Father Lumber Farm has not bought it yet – but guess he will, and if he does he wants to do something on it this fall – I love us – He will stay here till you get home and he wants you to come as soon as you can, so he can have time to plow if he buys. I suppose you will get this about the 20th and I guess you will start about the 24th

We have got some wood – but not enough for winter – but you will be at home to cut it better than I can. I guess it will be our best way to buy some of it. I calculate that about $200. besides what will be owing Farmer will pay both Briggs bills &c, and I calculate you have since you have been there earned about $150. I think you need not be afraid to come home we can meet all of our bills – we shall have some good hay to sell but I do not know as there will be any lumbering business will not be of much account this winter so "they say" we shall have some oats — and the wood &c My object in writing this is to let you know that we are expecting you home the first of November if you are well — We are all very well, Charlie is charley as ever, Josie and Mary – Mary says "My papa is coming home" "Yes – papa is coming, Barbus papa is coming" Perhaps you had better get Charlie an overcoat when you get to Bangor, he has not had any yet.

I am going down to the village to spend the day with Mother tomorrow. It is now most 10 – good night – May [illegible] Charlie

Josie wants to write a little letter to her papa and will do it next time

Nov 11th / 54.

My very Dear Charles

It is saturday night most 8.
We are all well and happy — if you was only here our happyness would be complete. The children went to bed happy and well. Josie says that he is a going to say "Our Father who art in Heaven" to Father when he gets home. Mary says "Now I lay me" when she goes to bed. She goes to bed awake with Josie. says "good night mother" When she wakes in the morning — the first thing is to find my face — Josie loves to put his arm round mothers neck and kiss her. Our children are a good deal of trouble and occasion a great deal of care and anxiety. but I do not know how I could get along without them. Josie gets the letter you sent him and Charlie and reads and sings over it every day — he thinks a good deal of it. sometimes when I tell him about Fathers coming home he will laugh out loud. he reads every day — nowadays. he learns easyer than Charlie. The children have layed away some nice large apples for Father so when he gets home. but I fear they will not before you come. Apples not very bad this year. It is a going to be a hard winter for poor people. crops are so cut off — and no lumbering done I do not know but it is for him ah — you stayed

in Illinois all this time. our farm has not yealded so much this year. we have not got more than 5 or 6 bush of corn - I asked W— to day how much oats he guessed we should have - about 100 bus - he guessed - only one bbl of beans - potatoes enough to last us I guess - every thing else accordingly but we are better off than thousands of others. We will enjoy what we have got — W— killed a pig to day - he will about 70 - we have had a lot of fun over our great hog - W— thought as we were so short for provender and so many hogs - that it was best to kill one we have now got the old sow and two pigs one to kill one to winter. W—'s health is quite good now - he is getting along very well with the work - I wrote you in my last letter that we had had a snow storm - that stayed - till to day - it is now raining right down and W— has improved the time in getting wood he has got up quite a pile - gets it with the sled - The oxen went away the 17th Oct - How much longer had we better keep the old hog - W— thinks that corn is so high — 1.20 to 1.25 pr bush — and pork so low that it is not best to buy corn for him - but to give him what oats and peas we have got - about 7 bush. like or three of corn than kill him — and let it go at that - what do you say? If you could only come home once in a while how nice it would be — to tell us what to do - I had a letter from Bangor - last widnes — that he got down safely and was as "contented as a kitten"

Percie is getting along nicely walks all round the house - is pleased with Charlie &c - I also received a Letter from you Wed - What an afident? What was. I cannot realize what a sight it was! - But the thought comes, Charlie and Isaac were spared - they were not of the number that were killed (how thank we ought to be that our Heavenly Father does thus protect us -

I fear this afident will detain Isaac longer than he anticipated will it not? Will he get through in Dec -? I suppose if he does not you will come Walter will stay here till the last of Dec - and no longer - he says - His wife expects to be sick - as I have written you - and I suppose he wants to go away before that time. He says you must - without fail - come by the last of Dec -

It is after 9 - and I guess I had better go to bed it is raining beautifully. I expect it will freeze up after this - Good night - If I could stick out my lips to you - I guess I should ——

Sunday ½ passed 11 - I have given the children their Lunch - they are now on the Lounge sinning Walter went to meeting at 9 oc - it is done raining - and is warm - but dull weather yet - I wonder what you are doing - and how you feel today - perhaps you are writing to me - I fear it will make you feel bad because you do not hear from home for such a long time - but you will get a Letter the

last of this week. Perhaps I did wrong to expect you so soon But I thought if you was coming home in Nov- that as Walter would so much to do something on his farm this fall - that if you came the first of the month it would give him time to do all the work that he wanted to But as you did not come - and all things are as they are - perhaps it is all for the best that you did not come - you will perhaps earn 50- more by staying if you are earning more now than any time before since you have been gone - for our expenses are so much less- family small - and Walter is able to work all of the time - I do not know but I am glad Sally and her baby are not here - although sometimes I feel that I should like some other company than Walter and Mr Ricker — Mr Ricker is as shiftless as ever - has not gone any plowing this fall. I am thankful I have not got such a husband -

I hope you will not think, because we are getting along so well - just at this time you can stay till Jan or Feb- we shall confidently expect you by the last of Dec- Walter will be entirely out of patience - if you do not come by the last of Dec- come sooner - do come sooner if you think best - How long you have been gone - how you have put off - and put off - you recollect - I thought you - I thought you had better stay 4- or 6 weeks longer till the peaches got ripe — But I guess it is all for the best that you have stayed - still it is rather hard for us to be separated so long -

Mt to Me - Nov 22 - /64 -

Dearist Charlie -

To day I have received a dear Letter from you - We go around to the P.O. every Wed = sometimes I do not get your Letter till Friday one time - not long since I did not get it till the next = Monday - I thought then of a surety you was coming - I feel that I owe you much for writing so often - I had no expectations of your writing oftener than once in two weeks - I am sorry you have had to wait so long before getting Letters from home - I certainty should have written - but I thought you would come home for it - is one of my - comforts - to write to you - it is not a task - I should think you had had most as cold weather as we - from you letter - we have had only one snow storm as till to day - it has snowed - not very fast - since then this A.M. - it now snows and blows like winter but it does not affect me any - I have got a good warm fire - and have it all to myself too - Walter has been abed this half hour - I guess I shall get used to staying alone by and by - but I don't believe it will make me like it - if I do How I do long to have you come home - I do hope you will start the first of Dec =

I do not think you will be any too soon — for W— is go and take care of his wife. He said to day he did not care how soon you come — I am spining stocking yarn and making shirts as fast as I can for you — If you need you had better get some cotton flannel at Bangs to make under shirts and draws

Josie and Mary talk about Father every day Mary says she is a going "to help Father so soon she gets bigger" she has learnd the boys says Josie is very well nowadays I need to be careful of him notwithstanding It is considerable passed 9 — and I guess I will not write any more tonight — Our two little children help me as warm as "toast" except my feet —

Charles I do want to see you; Will — good night —

Nov 28th It is Sabbath day W— has gone to meeting Sister Mary — went with him she stopped here Friday on her way from Foxcroft — Saturday she made me a bonnet the whole cost of which — was 1 dollar — Walter likes Mary a little I guess — almost every body likes her a little — she is a good girl Mary & Harriet have got Wm Foss Melodian — Mary has taken lessons on it some at Foxcroft — Wm Foss does love Harriet plenty well enough — and I guess she loves him some

We have had another rain storm — taken all the snow It looks this morning as if it was a going to

dear off and be cold - we have not had any such cold weather yet - as we had a bout the time you went away - a year ago - at this time -

Charles only think you have been gone almost a whole year. Little did I think when you went away that you would be gone more than 4 months I keep hoping you will come the first of Dec - but I have looked for and expected you so many times that I do not dare to be so sure - I hope your next letter will tell when I may expect you -

Sunday evening - Our children have gone to bed Walter is reading - now I am writing. How my heart reaches after you - how many more Sunday evenings must I spend without you I do want to see you - It seems a long time to look to the last of Dec - still I keep hoping you will come sooner - but I dare not calculate - for I have been disappointed so many times If I could lay my head in your bosom - what a comfort it would be - and how hard to - for you to stay from your family so long -

I hope and pray that this long separation may not only be to us a pecuniary benefit to us but a benefit to our immortal souls - How important - that we prepare - in this life - for another - where we shall dwell together.

My dear companion are you prepared - to be taken as suddenly as well those men that you

helped — dig out — from under the cars —
My dear Charles I do feel that our time is short
what we do we must do quickly — our time is
fast flying — we have been married almost
eight years — how quick the time has passed —
In eight years more — we know not where we shall
be — perhaps both of us in eternity — God only knows

I wonder what you are writing home to-
night I do hope it is that you have only one week
more that you are a going to stay — that you are a
going to start the first week in Dec — if so I do
not know as you will get this — I felt half enclined
not to send this now I have it written — but I
so much fear you will not come so soon
that I guess I will — I hope your letter next
wednesday will tell when you can & will start —
We are all very well — I have that sinking bad
feeling at my stomach and the backache — some
most every day but it grows no worse — perhaps I shall
out grow it some time — as it is said of children
when any thing ails them

I do not know as I had better write any
more to night

It is my daily prayer that God will preserve
your life and health — that you may return to your
family in safety —

From Your sincere & affectionate
Wife

Give my love to Isaac —

Town is all for the

Sunday afternoon - It is a dull cloudy day we have had dull weather for a long time - I expect when it clears off - it will be cold - It is a good time for people to plow - I do really feel kinder lonesome today I wonder if you do too - I suppose you are writing to me today as usual Mary is by my side with a pen and a piece of paper - says she is "writing to Father" When I ask her whose daughter she is - she says "Fathers" - I know she will love her Father - The other day Walter came into the house - sit down and took a paper - she climb up in a chair by the side of him and put her arms around his neck and looked into his face - so loving - He took no notice of her at all - he is no hand for children he did not take his own child only once in a great while - then he acted as if he did not know how - Willis Rider has never taken Lallys little girl in his arms - is'nt it singular?

Mr John Hodges is very sick will not live long Mrs Hopkins has not gone home yet - She that was Ellen Hopkins and her Husband are at Mr Henry Sargents Ellen got hurt coming - as she was stepping aboard the cars - they started - she fell on till she was dragged into the cars - She was alone her Husband has gone after her because she got

hurt- she hurt her back- she is in rather a dangerous situation Her Husband is a smart looking man- Got home from California last July He is a machanist- he came part way with his wife- she thought she could come the rest of the way alone- and go back with his Mother Sunday Evening- It has been quite a long dull day Walter has not come- I did not much expect him- he will come tomorrow morning it is very bad traveling- it is not cold the ground does not freeze- I expect we shall have cold weather before long I do not feel that I have much to say- but I want to keep writing- The Sons of Temperance have had quite an over-turn I do not know much about it- if I did I would tell you I believe they have regular meetings now-adays

I do not know as I had better write any more this time I shall expect a letter from you Wednesday- It is of bed time- guess I will read a little while and go to bed-

Good night

This is from your sincere & affection wife

Abram Rich

Sunday evening - It has been rather a long and lonesome day - a dull day is more lonely to me than a rainy one - I do not know as I know why it is - but I do not feel near so lonely as I did in the summer - I suppose it was because I so confidently expected you home - I expected to see you the first of July just as much as I expected you would live - and it was a disappointment - such an one as I never had before - but perhaps it will be good for me - It has been very hard for me to get reconsiled - Now I am expecting you the last week in Dec - for I suppose if you can stay till the 16 or 17 you will make out a year - and that is what you have wished to do - You will come by that time won't you I know you will - I am glad you do not dread the journey - Have you heared of the accident that took place on the Camerda - road - 49 persons killed and many wounded. two trains met - Have you heared from Sam Conrad - yet? shall you see him when you come home - I suppose you will go to see Ann when you come home - If you do you must fix up as well as you can - I wonder what you do for shirts and stockins. how many have you bought - are you going to get a new outside coat before you come home

I have just time to count the weeks – before you will certainly come – if you do not get here before the last week in Dec – it will make a little more than six weeks longer – can I wait – so long? I do hope I shall not have to – I hope you will come the first of Dec – for will have then have been gone more than a year – Walter would be glad to have you come – he does not care how soon How little I thought – when you went away – that you was going to be gone 12 months – but it has almost passed it will be but a few weeks – to make up the year since I saw your face turn from the door – since we gave that parting kiss – I hope it will not be long before we shall give the meeting kiss – But this we know but little about – for we may never meet again in this world – Life is a brittle thread how quick it is severed – how soon we are taken sometimes when we are little thinking of it – If we are only prepared – O how important is which we have life and health – my dear Sister let us ask ourselves – are we prepared to go if the summons should come to us – How happy would be the feeling – if one of us should be taken – to the one that was left – that we should soon meet again – never to be seperated Monday morning Mr Richer has come along as usual to go to the Village so I will send this by him – it will save going on purpose – I expect to get a letter from you Wed – I think I shall write again the last of the week – Mr R – is waiting good by From your ever Sister Libbie

I say now, no. We have got but a little while to live in this world, and I think that it is best to enjoy ourselves if we can. I know you will not think of staying. I hope you will come soon enough to help shear the sheep. Nathi is not used to shearing. The children are all well - and are happy in the anticipation of seeing their Father. I could write much if I had time but as I have not you will wait - till you get home. Isaac will tell all of any importance.

Charles how I do want to see you if I could fly how quick I would be by your side - I hope you will come home contented and satisfied to live here with ~~me~~.

I do not know as I ought to write more for I need to be getting things ready for breakfast. You see that I intended to send this to Bangor to you I can send by Isaac so I will

From Your Sincere and

True Companion

P.S. Nathi wants you to come home I expect a letter from you to night and one also Friday. Your letters do not come regular now

½ O. Act. Pell

Bangor Nov 30th 1858

Dear Albina

I arrived here safe last night but not till dark did not get out in the Evening have purchased two barrels Flour one of them double Extra 14 gallons molasses bucket of Brown sugar 10 lbs crushed white one bush Salt Chocolate Coco Tea Coffee &c to the amount of ~~last~~ 29 dollars Mr Livermore will bring a bill of the things

I have not seen Mr Livermore yet shall let him bring the money which he gets for the Pettingill & Chickens for you to pay Billingtons Estate will send up ten dollars between now and first of Jan. by Samuel to pay Taxes and if you want any thing more than you can get with the butter hide &c you must get Samuel to ~~go~~ carry you write to me to send you the needful I dont know yet how I shall get to Boston the River is frozen up but there is a probability that it will open the next tide there are men at work trying to open a way for the boats which are frozen in if the River opens so that the Boats can get out I shall calculate that they shall take me for

I have bought me a India Rubber Over Coat
one pr Pants one Vest two Flannel one pr Boots
&c to the amount of about 25 Doll. I have a
coat of Eliab pr on every day coat and I believe
I shall not buy a new coat till next spring
I am now I believe about ready and waiting with
as much patience as I can muster to see
whether the boats can get away

Yours Affectionately C. W. Rich

Thursday Morning 9 Oclock

There was a fair prospect last night that the ice
would go out with the night tide but it has not gone there are a
good many vessells & two boats frozen in and are
in danger of having to stay here all winter they
are making every exertion to open a chanel but
the ice has jambed & there is so much anchor ice that
it is somewhat doubtful about their getting out very soon
I might have gone by Stage last night in the night
(through the mail) and taken the Steamboat Rockland
at Litle Falls but Mr Bennett was gone Sunday to Mattawamkeag
at 6 O clock this Morning but Samuel thought I
had better wait till to day and see if these boats could go
I suppose now I shall have to take the Stage to
Waterville and take the Cars to Boston
If Mr Burnes wants the Oxen he can have them for $75
if not Samuel will take them into the woods in about
3 or four weeks you had better keep them saleable until
I have left 23 Dolls with Eliab from Matta

Mrs Albina L Rich

Milo

Bangor Dec 5th 1853

Mr Sawtelle Here I am again in Bangor we know not what a day may bring forth after retiring all day thursday in a restful expectation of the Boats being able to leave and finding conditions go to Waterville by Stage and take the Railroad cars just before dark that time had gone and we hurried down to get aboard the boat but were stopped out by the Captain that the boat if they got away would not leave Frankfort before Monday we ordered to go on by stage to Waterville the last Buss ran 7 o'clock Thursday Evening with two large open stages and one single horse wagon Gilman & I took seats in the single wagon but there being a vacant seat in the forward stage they wanted one of us out of the single wagon which had four persons in it we ~~empty the vacant seat in~~ filled up the big stages so I left that and got into the carriage after going four or five aboard 14 or 15 Miles being two three miles ahead of the other teams we found at one of the Ferries had broken partly off an awning out and the passengers had to get out and wade they went slowly along with the Baggage so in short time the other teams came up & a Gentleman came out for Mr Rich & informed me that that they left Mr Gilman about two

miles back sick with the cholic. so I let the Baggage go on & took my Valise in my hand & trudged back to find Gilman I found him at a small Tavern with 2 or 3 men at work over him they gave him some hot tea which distressed him very much he had got some water hot and we put Jerseys hot waters to his feet and hot cloths around him & rubbed him to get him warm I found that he had been soon after leaving Bangor taken with vomiting one violent pain in the bowels and water he could not ride any further than that with him and if the state of the carriage had not been so I probably should not have known what I was at Waterville. Had Gilman been well with us. I sat up working over him till twelve or one O'clock & got some sleep and the rest of the folks might have done so but as I was waiting upon him & thought he would get over it was to be able to go on the next night Tuesday morning I got him up but his stomach bowels were very sore & pained him whenever he moved. I found that he had not had any thing in his bowels since the Saturday morning before I left Ellis he had taken two pills that he had with him & one of Oil and then neither of his fellows another portion of Oil but all without effect I went off about two miles and got a Syringe at night as soon as the men folks had gone to sup & then took the opportunity to give him an injection (the only remedy there was to be had by the name Caymans Rice Original from Cuba Cor a cord natured & well tested never failing & best

my age not very fleshy but weighing 230 or 240 lbs.
was a first rate master Mill Wright had sailed Master of a
vessel eight years and had Doctored sick sailors and he
seemed to understand as well what he needed as any
Doctor, he went to work and gave him 4 injections of
Thoroughwort & Lobelia & succeeded after 2 or 3 times in
getting away perhaps a pint of what appeared more like
sheeps rennet only in larger notes & very black after
giving him 4 of these we followed it with Injections of
warm water & Melasses & in 10 times with out much
effect. About 9 oclock Mr Tisdale left for his home about
17 miles he would have staid all night only as he
had directed his boy to meet him with his horse on the way
and he would be waiting for him, he left directions to give
more Injections in 2 or 3 hours if he did not get relief
about 12 Oclock I gave him more but without much
effect about 2 Oclock A.M. on morning I sent a man
to Hamden about 8 miles after a Doctor he got the Doct
about 7 A.M. and went work giving Calomel & Jallop
and Injections of warm water with a little Spirits of
Turpentine in it and put cloths wet with Turpentine
over his bowels but all without effect his medicine
would come up and the Injections did not do much good
the Doct staid with him all day till after dark and
left me to give him a dose of Calomel (very large) directions with
at 9 P.M. if he did not have an operation an injection at
12 A.M. if he did not have an operation or get easy by
3 oclock to give him a dose of Epsom Salts which he left
but he kept growing weaker & weaker and at 3½ Oclock he died

for 2 or 3 hours before he died he was entirely free from pain and believed that 24 hours would decide whether he got better or not I asked him if he was ready to go he said yes but he wanted time to live (it not occurring to him that he was so near his end. I thought very doubtful about his getting well but did not think of his passing off so suddenly) he gave no directions about his affairs or Ethiel I had no idea but that he would live till the Doct came next morning just before he died he wanted some hot gruel and as soon as he began to drink he said what does this mean? quenched a little (laying partly raised up) & turned partly over and died immediately without a struggle or a groan. a few hours after laying him out & making arrangements for his grave clothes I hired a man to bring me to the city. (I had written to Ethiel that I might or might not stay 2 days but thought that I thought doubtful whether he would live till morning) and met Ethiel & Mr Watkins between Bangor & Hampden on their way to see him, I made arrangements with Mr Watkins to get a Coffin and go out and get the corpse & carry it up to Milo I gave Mr Watkins, Gilmans money with direction to keep an acct of his necessary expences and pay what bills remained & carry the rest to Milo I leave the chest of tools in Ethiels care it is now I suppose at Waterville he will get it brought back and take care of it until it is called for

I did not sleep any Thursday night not more than 2 or 3 hours Friday night and none Saturday night. I cannot know but I shall stop here to remain till tomorrow night before I leave for Waterville. Lucy had a letter from Ann dated Nov 29 she wrote to have me be sure and call there on my way out it will be from Cleveland to Elyria off my route I dont know yet whether I shall stop there or not, perhaps you may hear from me again before I get there

Yours Affectionate C W Rice

Will Calantie & Joseph that I hope they are well & send my love to them if Charles (with you) can send any thing to them

Cleveland Ohio Sat Dec 10th 1853

Dear Albina I arrived here safely this Morning at one Oclock A.M. should have been here yesterday morning at 6 but for the people of the Citty of Erie (on the road between Buffalo and Cleavland) who owing to a difficultty between the Erie folks & the R.R. Co the Erie folks tore up the track and destroyed the Bridges between the State line of New York and the Citty of Erie so as to render it impassable for the distance of 7½ miles & the stopping & delay occasioned thereby put me 24 hours behind. & I have concluded now to wait till after noon and take the cars for Elyria and stop till Monday I should have got along pretty quick but for this delay I left Bangor in the Stage about 6 Oclock Tuesday Morning and left Water-ville in the Cars 6½ Oclock Wednesday Morning arrived in Boston 2½ some day left Boston 4½ and arrived in Albany at 2½ same night after paying a half dollar for 3 hours sleep and a half dollar for my breakfast I started at 7½ for Buffalo and arrived there at 7½ & should have gone right on and arrived at Cleavland next Morning, Friday at 6 but for the Erie difficulty I am now waiting here for the Saturday P.M. Trains to Elyria I have concluded to go to there and see

Ann it will cost me but $1,50 fare to go there & back
and shall probably start again from Cleveland
on my journy west next Monday P.M.
when I shall get there is more than I can tell
probably by Thursday or Friday next week
The Steam whistles of ~~some of the Trains~~ the Engines are sounding
the arrival or departure of some of the Trains almost
here comes the Sandusky Train about one Oclock
will go out by Elyria again at 4 P.M. when
I shall start for Elyria. I get me a R.R. Guide
and find no trouble in going any where I wish
This R.R. travelling is a very nice & quick way of
getting about if a person only has Money enough
this flying along at the rate of from 30 to 50 miles
an hour is lively business to what a wagon
with a lazy horse is
We came along about a hundred miles up
the valley of the Mohawk most of the time
in sight of the River & Canal it is quite
a fertile valley not very wide generally rather
small houses & Barns but large stocks of Cattle
we came right through the Citys of Syracuse &
& Rochester (which are very handsome places) and
likewise many others too numerous to mention
after leaving the valley of the Mohawk the land became
rather more undulating with gentle swells but
very fertile and handsome and growing all the way

more so to Buffalo & so on to Cleveland Ohio
when I got west of the Hudson River I found the
ground not frozen much nor the Rivers only skimed
over in some places the season of appearing like the
forepart of Nov. here in Cleveland it appears
like Oct the country people are in with all sorts of Vegetables
to Market a large proportion of the country
Market men appear to be Dutch men & women
I saw one smart looking Dutch woman (and pretty well
along too) with a cow & calf for sale price $25;
There is an immense amount of Transportation
over these R. Roads we kept passing Freight Trains
frequently all the way from Albany
I must carry this to the P.O. so as to be in time
for the cars at 4 O'clock
While I am writing here in the Depot Office
there sits by me a man from Maine Engineer
on a boat on Lake Erie been out there five years
born up by Moosehead Lake so every where we
go we find Maine Boys

Your C. W. Rich

Du Quoin Illinois Dec 18th 1859

My Dear Wife

I arrived here last evening about 5 o'clock having rode 2 days ~~open~~ the Praeries in a Buggy waggon. I wrote to you from Cleveland which I suppose you have received before this time. I left Cleveland at 4 Oclock PM 10 for Elyria in the Cars arrived at Elyria ~~about~~ dark found Dr L. ~~Wittet~~ at home ~~enquired~~ he answered my ring himself I enquired after his wife, he immediately asked if it was Mr Rich they appeared very glad to see me he is rather a fine looking man, pretty tall but well proportioned quick & energetick in his movements but graceful and gentlemanly appears to be very well informed pretty sociable and ~~quite~~ a good story teller with a fund of funny anecdotes ~~received~~ from his intercourse with the Natives in his practice of medicine & he will mimic the dialect and peculiarities of the Dutch &c &c

The two little girles appear very fond of their new mother think every thing she does or says just right the eldest ~~about~~ 12 pretty large of her age has an open earnest ~~manner~~ manner puts me in mind of Mary Pomeroy the youngest about 8 appears as if she had been babied some but still appears to be under good government I intended to have staid there only from Saturday till Monday but they persuaded me to stay till Tuesday & the Dr took me to ride 8 or 10 miles to see the country where

he was going on business Tuesday at 11 left Cleveland
for Cleveland in company with P. J. Cecil who was
going to C. on business and Anna went with him to
do some shopping. left Cleveland at 3 P.M. Sunday
arrive at Chicago the next morning & left directly for
Alton & St Louis arrived at Alton about 2 O'clock the
next night. & should have been at St Louis at 4 P.M.
Thursday but owing to the fog the St Louis & Alton
boat connected with the Rail Road did not come up to
Alton so that a Packet Boat took the Passengers but did
not leave for St Louis till 9 P.M. so that I had to
remain at St Louis till the next morning when I took
the stage to Belleville expecting to take the Stage from
there to Mt Hawkins but the Stage had been gone
about an hour and so I started on foot but was
lucky enough to be overtaken by a man alone in
a buggy wagon going directly through Du Quoin
and got a ride directly there two days drive for. half
what it would cost me to go by stage. while waiting
on the boat at Alton I came across Moses Greenbaf
he lives in Springfield a very flourishing place the
Rail Road from Chicago to St Louis going through it
I came by Rail Road from Lasalle down the Illinois river
through large prairies I should think 40 or 50 miles in
extent but small portion of it apparently improved (the
Rail Road probably not going through the most
improved portions). the Corn mostly not gathered
frequently saw the farmers with their long narrow
Dutch wagons with two horses in the midst almost

hid by the tall corn picking off the ears
after leaving Belville which is 15 miles from the
River we passed alternately Prairies 6 or 8 miles
very rich, and then perhaps from 4 to 8 miles of
Oak woods a good deal of rather poor land with
a stinted scattering growth of scrubby Oak, with
here & there a patch of pretty good straight timber
The corn on those rich Prairies is 10 or 12 feet high
the ears would sometimes be about as high as I could
reach, sometimes large flocks of cattle, horses &
hogs in the corn fields helping themselves
but the cattle & hogs generally were not in so good
order as I expected to see them they might with
a little ~~pains~~ ~~pains~~ care to house & feed them
raise excellent cattle & hogs but they make up
in number what they lack in quality
Isaac looks well hearty & well ~~that~~ Netty looks
rather pale & feeble though she ~~says~~ she is pretty
well but she is not yet get strong & healthy
I have just ~~conclusion~~ come from the fore-noon
meeting heard a pretty good discourse upon the
mode of Baptism I believe the first discourse
that ever I heard in favor of Sprinkling
I inferred from his observations that it was one
of a ~~series~~ regular series of subjects taken
in course This Du Quoin is a very pretty situation
a knoll or gentle swell surrounded by or in the
midst of a considerable extensive Prairie and father

in the distance, some 6 to 8 miles away is woods all around. Du Quoin seems to a settlement of Yankies by the looks of the houses very different from the surrounding country. Isaac's boy is a very lively sprightly jumping fellow pretty good natured not so fat nor so large as Lucy's boy looks like Nettie more than Isaac

I was detained on the road (besides stopping from Saturday till Tuesday at Elgin) nearly two days which left me only about 7 days travel I found it not so hard as I anticipated although stopping so much made the journey easier I did not ride any more than two nights in succession any one with a through ticket can stop any where they choose and take any train they wish within twenty days from the purchase of the ticket I think I could stand it to go right through the whole rout without stopping

It has cost me some more than I anticipated being detained on the way and the fares almost all the way are raised from what they last summer & fall The fare from Bangor to Boston was 5,75 from there to Chicago 23. thence to St Louis 9,50 from St Louis to Du Quoin, cost me 3,50 it probably would have been more if I had gone by stage all the way

My expences in all since I left Bangor are about 50,

Tell Charlie & Josie that when I have time to spare I will write a letter to him and tell him all about the steem engines and cars and how fast they go and how many I ride in a day

I want a letter about this time

Yours Affectionately H. C. W. Rich

Du Quoin Dec 26th 1853

My Dear Wife

I was very glad to receive a letter from home yesterday. Isaac came down here Saturday with his buggy & Agon with his horses & I went up to Du Quoin with him and went to meeting there till Monday. Antoinette was quite unwell with a cold has been about sick for a week. Isaac was rather unwell last week with a cold but is better, little S. Mayo is pretty well but is rather uneasy & a little fretful he has rather too many folks to play with him. I am well and hardy & get along pretty well I am now writing in the store where I live nights it is a building made of rough boards about 20 feet by 31 1½ stories high the upper part containing 9 or 10 beds wherein the contractors Overseers Store keeper Clerk & steward & boarders in a shanty close by & the tanners sleep in another shanty close by & the road hands board in large tenements along the road as they can they have got a little house fitted up on a couple of gravel cars with a couple of baggage cars fitted up for sleeping rooms which they move up along as the track is laid. The store belongs to the contractors (three men in company) who have taken the grading &

Dec 30 I have just walked up to Du Quoin from De Soto the rest of the crew have quit till after New years and the Steem Mill which saws Lumber for us cannot work because the well which supplies the water for the boiler has failed. it is uncommonly dry here but it is beautiful weather comfortably cool
Antoinette is quite unwell yet has had quite a bad time for a week she has just weened her babe will probably get better soon
I reckon Isaac is very well liked and gets along well with his busines
Mother ought to be more careful of herself and not try to wash and everything and so ought you all be careful of your health.
I hope Samuel Furber has got the Oxen if Burnips has not bought them I am afraid you will be short for hay if you have to keep the Oxen I think likely that the smallest colt may be some bossey & perhaps the others may be cross to him if they all run in the stable so as not to let him eat but I suppose Uncle will see to that
It costs but little to winter stock here to what it does in Maine. the people do not pretend to house their cattle some have sheds for them to run under, and through a little corn on the ear for them and let the hogs pick up the scattering only a few pretend to have much if any hay most of the corn is standing in the fields yet

I am now work on the whole Div 53 miles that is

they cut through the hills and fill up the valle
an fit the road to lay the ties for the rails &
the whole being done by the yard under the super
intendence and according to the direction of the Engineers & the contractor
keep a store for the purpose of supplying Laborers
this place is away from La Salle about 12 miles south
in the woods & called De Soto & about 3 miles north
of Big Muddy a small river which empties into
the Mississippi about 60 miles from here it is about
60 miles north of Cairo at the mouth of the
Ohio river the southern termini of the
Ill Central Rail Road from here through the
southern part of Illinois is most entirely covered
with a heavy growth of wood mostly Oak
small vessels can come up the Big Muddy to
the line of the road they have brought up the
river a good lot of Rail Road Iron & a small
steam Engine & 10 or 12 cars for transporting
Iron &c along the road so that we have a
steem locomotive running up & down here
in the woods. we are now fixing up a tem-
porary Engine house in one end of a wood shed
there are Dutch, Irish, Yankees & Yankees &c
here at work the weather is comfortably cool
dry and the ground frozen a little it seems
about like October they say that the streams
& wells &c are very low there have been no
fall rains yet of any account as the Dutchman say

I am very glad to hear that my little boys are good children I hope they will always mind quick what their mother tells them and always be pleasent to each other & learn to read very well I expect Charlie will learn to read well enough to get his Testament and Josie get his letters learned before I get home I dont know what little Mary will do unless she learns not to cry but learns to talk

There is a mail here only once a week except when Isaac sends an express out to another post line about 10 miles away which he does frequently for the companys business so that letters are frequently some time reaching here though they come most here pretty quick

I suppose you have got one or two of my letters before this time, I wrote you from Cleveland & two since I arrived here, I expect to receive another from you next mail I should like to get one every week if you can get time to write, & I want Mother to write too

It looks as if it would blow up a storm and when it does come I expect it will be muddy enough the mud here is slippery as grease and sticky as wax I had a foretast of it the day I arrived here occasioned by a little snow

Antoinette has walked out in the garden to take the air She thinks she is getting better

Your Affectionate Husband C. W. Rich

Du Quoin Jan 1st 1864

I wish you all a happy New Year
I sent a letter yesterday & shall not send
this for a week or so, but the good wishes
will be just as good when you get them
The regular mail is only once a week from
Du Quoin but Isaac frequently an express
out 10 miles to another Post Office on the
company's business so that we frequently have
an opportunity to get the mail oftener
It is quite cool & wintery to day there came
½ an inch of dry round snow last night it
was some-what cloudy & blustering in the
morning but the sun came out and it grew
warmer in the afternoon I went to meeting
in the fore noon but it was a little cool & but few
out and there was no meeting in the afternoon
it takes but little cold weather to keep people
about here away from meeting
Antoinette thinks she is getting better some but
rather slow she has been quite sick. Isaac has
to be rather carefull or he takes cold, The little
boy is pretty well but is rather troublesome
just now on account of being weaned so that
Isaac is kept awake some nights in consequence
Little DeWayo is really quite a sprightly
little fellow he does not creep yet but just begins
to sit alone without tumbling over

Thursday Eve Jan 5th Down at Dedato at the
Store where I lodge with the Contractor Overseers &c
The Store is most full of Contractor Overseer Clerks
Store keeper teamsters &c they are laughing, talking
playing cards reading newspapers &c although
the newspapers get rather old before they get here.
It has been remarkable warm & pleasent weather
most of the time since I have been here there has
been no rain hardly since the ground is dry &
no frost the streams are very low I understand that
the Mississippi is so low that Boats especially freight
boats can with difficulty get along, there has been
no fall rains hereby yet they are boreing for
water at the stations along the line for the
supply of the Engines I expect they will have
to bore pretty deep likely enough 400 or 500 feet in
some places I went Monday out to New Du Quoin
Station out on the Prairie 4 Miles from Du Quoin
& put up an Iron pump where they had bored
over 100 feet to pump out & see whether they had
got a supply of water I pumped it down the depth
of the lead pipe in an hour after I got the pump to
going they will probably have to bore deeper
Yesterday & to day I have been helping to build a temporary
house over a water tank about 8 feet in diameter & 8
feet high & set up 8 feet from the ground & set near to
Big Muddy River so that they Pump the water out of
the River into the tank to supply the Engine with
water to haul the Iron rails along up the track

My dear little Charlie & Josie

I hope you are both very good boys & mind quick just what your Mother & Grand Mother tells you & I hope you are always pleasant to each other & kind & pleasent to your little sister. If Mother lets you go to school you must be very good & still in school and learn all you can and be pleasent & kind to all the little boys & not play rash & not cry for every little thing but be a manly little boy, and if you do not go to school you must learn to read at home. I want to see you very much but I want you should be good children even more than I want to see you

I will tell you alittle about riding by rail road They have great Iron machines built on wheels and driven by steem & they are so large & heavy & go so strong that they will draw 15 or 20 cars 30 feet long & & wide some of them with pens built on them to carry Cattle & hogs & Pork & Beef and all kinds of goods. They call them freight cars. The Passengers cars are fixed with cushioned seats for People to ride on and each car will carry 40 or 50 men they look some like a little house ~~all full of~~ about as high and wide as the Piazza and as long as the wood shed & set up on two stout wagons with low wheels, & all full of little windows and they go sometimes 30 & 50 miles an hour

From your affectionate Father C. W. Rich

There is a train going out from here to St Louis tomorrow & will stop at Quincy this side of St Louis about bed time so I will not write more

Dubuque Jan 15th 1854

My Dear Wife

I wrote to you from Cleveland Dec 10 and have written 3 letters since but have received only one letter from home since I have been here and that was dated 10th Dec last date I believe I dont know what is the reason I dont get any letters whether you are all dead or sick or buried up in the snow I see by the papers that there has been a tremendous snow storm about the last of Dec and I know that the mails are very irregular in this country owing in part to the imperfect connection between the Stage routs and also the dependence usually placed upon river transportation which owing to the extreme drought is almost entirely suspended at present the Missisi & Ohio being almost unnavagable but still Crosby had a letter from home yesterday in two weeks from date and it seems as if I might have one in 6 weeks Antoinnette is some better so that she comes out to her meals which she has not done for two or three weeks till quite lately I think she is getting better ~~ghost~~ rather slow. little D. Mayo was quite sick night before last so that they sent for the Doct & he gave him Calomel & then Oil the he is some better now he has got no teeth yet & the Doct thought he

probable he would not have perhaps for a
month or two he probably took cold & the Dr.
I believe thought effected his liver suspending it
action he probly will not be entirely well untill
he cut his teeth I saae is pretty well but I am
afraid that being broken of his rest so much night
will weare upon him he keeps a girl to help
take care of the baby & they hire their board & their
girl has nothing to do but for them.
Last night when I came in from below I found
here no less a stranger than Mr. Samuel Canant
of Barnard Vermont he arrived here Friday night
Jan 13th almost beat out and done over having
had a very hard journey & taken some cold had
been three weeks from home. but he stoped on
this way at his brother in law Carrolls who
lives in the southern part of Ohio and from
Cincinnati here owing to the low stage of the
water in Ohio river he was obliged to take
circuitous stage routs and finally the last
seventy miles he had to foot it and it is
really a serious job to undertake to travel
cross routs & by way across prairies & through
timber land. there is so many by ways and cross
roads & no fences except here & there a man's
field fenced out which perhaps the track of a road
(through the Prairie grass) runs round I dont
know as I should have known him although
I think I should after hearing him speak
and seeing him a few maments he is 6 foot 2 inches

3 inches tall and come to see him a little while is about the same sixpence that he was twenty five years ago when I last saw him in Boston before I first went down East he is intending to stop and work a while he started from home before he get my letter If Gilman had lived & I had 3 or 4 more Eastern boys here I might do well by taking jobs it cost a great deal to get work done here by Yankees & Irishmen they are so slow We have had only one real rainy day since I have been here & then it did not rain very hard but just hard enough to stop the work on the road a little rain makes it so muddy that it is almost impossible to work the mud is slippery & greasy & sticky & feels nasty it looks now as if it would rain & so it has frequently before, but I expect when it does really begin it will come in abundance and we shall probably have mud, mud, mud but the winter has been remarkably favorable so far for Rail Roading I am rugged & well & pretty comfortable If you are not all dead or buried up in the snow I hope to have letters from you within a few months ~~I see by the paper that~~ I should really like to hear how you get along down East whether you will have fodder enough to keep the stock whether Charlie goes to school whether Samuel has got the Oxen & Josie learns his letters &c &c &c

Du Quoin Jan 22nd 1854

My Dear Wife

I received letters from home last night dated Dec 25th & Jan 4th. I have had but one before and that one was dated the 10th Dec it seemed a long time to wait for letters I am very well now I took a little cold last week but get over it in two or three days Isaac is pretty well Nettie & the Baby are both improving in health I have been to Meeting this forenoon the After noon service commences again at three o'clock & while we are waiting for dinner I will just take the time to begin a letter to home for it seems that they are a long time going & coming Last Monday we had about an inch of snow & ice and it remained cold & slippery till Thursday Friday there came a warm rain & cleared the ground but it clouded of Friday night & Saturday Morning was frozen up again the Thermometer at sunrise down to Zero

I am glad the Oxen are gone for I am afraid you will be short for fodder but am very sorry that Nettie has got lame & damaged Lot on her so much I think Burnips got 10 dollars too much in the trade for his Oxen I suppose it is well enough to let John use the colt some but I want he should be very careful of him a great many horses are spoiled by using them too hard before they get inured to labor I dont want to use him enough to retard his growth because I shall probably want to sell him next fall

With regard to Uncle Mark, home if you can get along for keeping & he cannot do any thing else with him that you will have to let him stay there a while as long as is necessary or as you think best but I had rather have a little hay to spare in the spring than to be short. A Ton or two of hay to sell in the spring if it should be 20 dll per Ton would be rather convenient; but I want you should be especially careful & not let the sheep get poor if they do they will surely loose their lambs so many sheep will require a great deal of fodder but if they have grain it will do to use hay of poorer quality & straw
You had better get Mr Livermore to furnish you with wood (mainly) upon some conditions I have no doubt he can furnish it cheaper than you can get it & hire it hauled from any chance that we have yet to haul from I dont ~~calculate to~~ pay Mr Lee more than 5 or 6 dollars at any rate I have worked his highway Tax two years (about one dollar, or so I guess ~~or no~~) I dont suppose I owe him much if any thing besides for the old sleigh which nobody would say was worth more than 4 or 5 dolls. twas of no value except the irons & them were not in stile for a fashionable sleigh would only do to iron a Pung or handly suitable for that. I think you had better let him wait till I come home you may need all your means and perhaps more before next summer
Uncle Mark need not be very particular about threshing the oats very clean the cattle will get what is left in the straw, The dinner bell rings and I must go to dinner

I have been up to dinner had roast Beef, Prairia Chicken Beens, Minced Pie & Plum cake, Tea & Coffee we make up where we come up to Isaac's boarding place in Du Quoin (Mr Keyes) for our meager fare among the Yankees but the Shantees though it is plenty enough such as it is mostly baked dough & Pork sometimes Beef the Bell has rung for after noon meeting but I think I will stop and finish my letter.

Samuel & I have been to the woods two or three days the past week looking up and getting out some large White Oak timber to lay along on some arched culverts across Grand Creek. I hired one hewer & 4 chopsers had to go 3 or 4 miles before I found timber suitable I hired the men for 1.25 ct. pr day they went one day but the next day they swore they would not go so far unless I would give them 1.50 pr. day so there being no other men that I could get & the timber being wanted immediately I was obliged to give it to them or do worse

When I boarded last week the woman has 5 children about 10 or 12 & the youngest 3 months she has twenty boarders men that work on the road stone masons &c does all her work herself, very clever folks she looks much like Mrs Keen or as she used to get breakfast ready by 6 Oclock so we cant expect she can do much but bake bread & cook meat they do not seem to know how to make wheat bread about here among the Dutchers The engine broke or rather the Pump, to it so that they had to send in to St Louis to get some repairs in the mean time they have to haul their iron with 4 horse teams hitched to the cars enough to keep the tracklaying going on

It is no matter how soon yo engage a man for next summer if you can get a good one Franklin Hart would Just the man if you can get him or I suppose John Hart would do I expect we shall have to buy or take a yoke of cattle it will be very difficult to get along without as we have no Nelly to do every thing If you buy or take cattle to keep out it will take a good deal of hay & if you should be very short perhaps it would be best not to buy Oxen but let the farming go It is no great object any how it costs about as much as it comes to to raise any thing in Maine except hay If we buy Oxen at all I think it as well to buy good cattle such as will sell readily at any time or else young likely cattle that will grow large

I should like to hear more particularly how you get along how much the Pork will last how much of the hay & corn there is gone & how you all get along in doors & out If Charlie goes to school he must be careful not to go out in the snow & get wet and get cold, it will be exercise enough going & coming from school without playing too hard but if he does not go to school must study short at home you must all be careful of your health

Can Charlie read in the Testament yet. Can Josie tell his letters & can Mary talk any yet &c &c &c

I suppose Mother has gone to Bangor before this time Your Affectionate Husband

C. W. Rich

Du Quoin Jan 29th 1882.

Sabbath Evening

Dear Wife

I have written to day a letter To Bangor I wrote to you last week as also I have almost every week since I have been here but I have received only two or three letters from home I dont write now because I have any thing in particular to say but to induce you to write often if you are not all buried up in the snow I guess you do not know how much I want to ~~hear~~ from you or you would write oftener I want to know all about how you get along and whether you are a going to have fodder enough and forty thousand other things I have written Charlie & Josie a letter and write this to send them in not for a letter was not thinking of writing to day but took a notion this evening to come down to the Office seeing the Sub Engineer had a fire there, writing letters & write you a several My health is good I got cold last week some but got over it in a day or two Isaac is pretty well Antoinette is getting better she rode with Isaac yesterday down to (Six mile Creek) where I was at work about four miles from Du Quoin little Dollaye is better pretty well now

Yours affectionately husband C. W. Rich

Mrs Albina S. Rich
Nilo

Duquoin Feb 5th 1854

Ally Dear Wife

I received your letter dated Jan 8th and 15th last thursday Isaac came down on the road where I was at work framing some timbers on over "Carron Creek" Culvert & brought them to me wasnt I glad to get them and when I came up to Du Quoin Saturday night as I do every week to spend the Sabbath I found one from Mother came in one to Isaac & I like wise Isaac hear one from E-liab Isaac's health is pretty good now & Antoinette is improving she went to Meeting this forenoon rode yesterday down to six mile Creek with Isaac, where I was at work building a small house over a water Tank she thinks riding does her good her health has been improving since she has weaned her babe.

The bell rings & I must go to dinner

I have just been up & got my dinner had Chicken Pie coffee bread & butter & cheese & doughnutts Minced pie apple sauce &c. last Sabbath had roast Turkey &c Mr Keyes sets a good table especially on the Sabbath when the Engineers &c are in, & sometimes his table is pretty full. I make amends Sundays for my meagre fare during the week among the Dutch or in the boarding Shanties on the line which consists mostly of Pork & baked Dough sometimes boiled Beef & burnisht potatoes being mostly out of the question. The first bell rings for Meeting which commences for afternoon service at 3 O'clock P.M.

In the forenoon Mr Bird preached on the Devil
Text "And there was war in heaven Micheal and his
Angels fought against the Dragon, and the Dragon fought
and his angels, &c the 7th & 8th & 9 verses of the 12 chapter of Rev
Showing the power influence temptations &c of the Devil
some of it was pretty good Mr Bird is not a very great
man but rather good preacher tolerably judicious
a Presbyterian last sabbath a Baptist Minister
preached an unlearned but of considerable natural
ability & influence. The second bell rings & I guess
I will go to meeting though these small sized
preachers are apt to be rather tedious on account
of their great length

"After Meeting" The sermon was not unreasonably
long the Text, If God be for us who can be against us
& tolerable good sermon but few out & poor singing as usual
The weather is warm and pleasant warm enough so that
I am comfortable, writing in Isaac's office without a
fire I have a convenient chance in the office to write
but there is most always some one or more of the
Engineers in the Office sundays writing letters &c
and generally keep a fire Mr Mitchell one of Isaac's
Sub Engineers is now writing at one side of a long
writing desk & I at one end, Desk about 8 feet long
I see Young Crosby (from Hamden) about every day he is
rather a good fellow but withall somewhat self
conceited he is one of Mitchells assistants, It is
no uncommon thing for a young man to feel their
"greatness" ~~when~~ more when they first begin to
grow than when they get bigger

I hope you will be able to get Franklin Hart or Ebbing Piper or some other good man engaged soon to begin early enough in the spring to repair the fences cut wood &c in season for getting in the crops as for the wages a dollar or two on a month is no object if you get a good faithful man I dont know but it will cost more than it comes to try to do any thing by hired labor but I suppose you cannot get along without a man and you had better have a good one; With regard to Oxen, if you are very short of hay, as I am afraid you will be perhaps you had better get along without but if you have keeping sufficient perhaps you had better get Samuel to furnish a yoke of good Oxen either buy or take I dont care which As for Uncle Marks horse it is of no great consequence one way or the other though I should rather keep the hay than the horse but if he cannot dispose of him I suppose you had better keep him if you can get along for fodder I am some afraid that the sheep will get poor there is so many of them & Uncle Mark not being used to tending a large flock the wool and lambs will be our main dependence next summer, but Uncle Mark is so careful I suppose all will go well. It will be bad for you if your pumps fail if I was there I think I could set them a going. the rubber valves at the barn if they get stuck by the frost can be started by pouring warm water not hot to the tube perhaps the frost may have raised the well shed and drawn the tube down it so those pieces of plank under the box might be taken out and let the box down on to the floor so that the valve would

This is really a mild and beautiful climate compare with our's especially this winter it is so remarkable dry but I should like my own comfortable room and my own good bed & bedfellow instead of these ~~open~~ houses and hard beds which I generally find here with the ~~wind blowing in on to you when asleep I suppose~~ There are comfortable houses about here but I have not happened to board in any except Mr. Keyes. My work has so far been here & there a little while in a place but I expect soon to be more stationary, I am afraid you have a hard time to take care of all the children night. I am sure I should like to help you night. I hope you will none of you get sick you must all be careful of your health

I am sorry if Mother hurt Uncle Mark's feelings I don't think she meant to, but it would not be strange she being gone so much for her to be afraid that the things would not go right, but I think you are apt to be rather sensitive and take more than the means: but do not trouble yourself it will all come right in there

I wrote a letter to you & Charlie & Jane last week I suppose you will get that before you do this I have sent you a letter at most every week perhaps you have not received them all

I hope Charlie & Jane will be very good boys & I presume little Mary will be a good girl

Your Affectionate Husband C. H. Rich

Du Quoin Feb 12th 1854

My Dear Wife,

I have been to meeting this forenoon but stay at home this afternoon to write I have not much time nor opportunity to write except Sundays I have just written a letter to Bangor & I will scribble a few lines to you not because I have any thing in jiaticular to write but because I want to hear from home I expected a letter surely this week from you but it does not come yet, it takes letters a long time to go & come & you must start them often Isaac is well as usual looks some better than he did a while ago Antoinette has got quite smart looks quite well rides out with Isaac frequently Little Du Coign Mayo is pretty well has got no teeth yet. I am well, have got up to Du Quoin Station to work (4 miles from Du Quoin) to which place I go Saturday nights to spend the Sabbath) I have better board & more comfortable quarters up among the people that live in Du Quoin, than down on the line towards Big Muddy: I have quite a good boarding place now only I have to walk ½ mile for my dinner

They are getting along pretty well with the road laying down the track at the rate of about 3 miles a week, they have laid some 10 or 12 miles since I have been here ... I am now at work on a house at Du Quoin Station building for a boarding house to board the hands while putting up the Depot Buildings at New Du Quoin Station. The Junction at Centralia where the great Depot, Engine house Repair Shop & Car Factory &c brick buildings are to be is about 46 miles above here on the upper end of Isaac's Division there will not be much done there till next summer though the brick are contracted for. the building is but little of done till the track is laid because they can procure the lumber so much cheaper by means of the Rail Road Cars to transport it from the Mill to where they want it. But now I have been making a long story about nothing or what amounts to nothing for it is upon what you care nothing about but I don't know as I have any thing in particular to write about I have wrote to you most every week but get letters from home but seldom I would ask a thousand and one questions if I knew any thing about you but the last news from you (almost a month ago) 15th of January

is so old that I hardly know what questions to ask now (the almost middle of February) but I believe I think the most about your health & the next about the cattle & sheep for fear you will be short of hay but I have no doubt that Uncle Mark will see to & take care of every thing just as well as if I was there but still I am afraid that I sold most too much hay but if you need any more money let me know & I will send you some

I was wife is a real good woman so kind affectionate & always pleasent & a real lady every now & then she treats me to some nuts or candy or apples or something she has mended my drawers I ought to have taken one or two pairs of cotton drawers with me these little fine knit ones wear out so quick

Sabbath Eve 7 o'clock I have just been down stairs & got my Lunch, had Turkey & Ducks, Mince pie & cake &c for dinner, which comes Sunday at 2 o'clock P.M. & then cakes, Pies &c set on to the table at night so we help ourselves

We had a quite a Maine law sermon to day Preached by Mr Bird his text was (Am I my Brothers keeper) showing the responsibility of the people for the welfare and conduct of others generally especially of church members

and particularly the obligations and responsibilities of the Law makers & the Sovereign people with regard to countenancing encouraging & legalising the traffic in Ardent Spirit he is a real thorough going Maine Law Temperance man and a pretty good preacher
The people generally in this part of the State have had but little light upon the subject of Temperance and many are opposed to it they think they can't do without Whiskey but light is breaking in & there are considerable many Main Law men they have had two meetings in Dr Dunn lately for the Public discussion of the Main Law principles ...
Cousin Samuel Conant I believe I told you had come out here he Makes me think of his Father more than himself, looks & acts very much as his Father did as long ago as I can remember I had not seen Samuel for more than 25 years not since he was a boy & instead of his being the boy he was he is more like the man that his Father was when I used to go up to Uncle Conants to play with Sam & Hervey But he has got 2 or 3 almost grown up sons & Daughters I suppose if I should see his sons they would look more like him than he himself he has 5 children one Son in Boston fireman on Ferry Boat about 20 years old another 18 at home & a Daughter 17, so you see how much behind hand I have got, but I guess you have got enough of such my nonsense & I have got my sheet full so I'll quit Yours C. H. Rich

Du Quoin Feb 19th 1854

My Dear Wife

I have just received a letter (or rather two in one) from you dated the 22 to 28th, it was charged double for excess of weight two sheets with an envelop unless very thin paper will hardly go 1/2 will go single

I am very sorry you have such tribulation with those pumps, that barn pump is a bad business from beginning to end I wish old Smith had been farther off before ever I saw him It would have been much better if I had got an old fashioned log pump as I intended to first I suppose that if James or some one could take up that loose plank on the north side of the well curb at the barn & go down into the well, perhaps with a light, ~~and~~ and wind long strips of cloth (if the cloth was greased or dipped in thick paint it would be better) tight round the tube where it is split open (when the water is low in the well) that it would pump much faster, if I was there I think I could fix it, it must be very bad for you to water the cattle there but perhaps you water them at the brook or River, but before this reaches you it will be spring I suppose but perhaps not warm weather there here it does not freeze nights much more than

My health is very good I am at work 6 or 7 men on a house for a boarding house 1 at Du Quoin Station 1/4 mile from there & two at Pleasant Location in the mile & 1/2 mile Prairie have quite a good boarding place. I put the mill to work on Monday & run some time & rather like it

half of the time two or three times there has been a week or 10 days of considerable cold weather the ground at one time was frozen 5 or 6 inches deep but it has seldom frose more than two or three inches I am afraid you have rather a hard time this winter if Uncle Mark is not there or even if he is, but James if he is careful can take care of the barn after the school is done if he can I had just as well pay him as Uncle Mark. If I should be gone another winter I will not leave so much stock for you to take care of but when warm weather comes you can get along better and that will soon come after you get this I have not began to think or make any calculation yet about, when I shall come home, I am afraid that if I do I shall want to be coming too soon you must think how those women get along whose husbands are gone to California or at Sea, two or three years at a time though perhaps you would say that the prospect that they have that their husbands will come home with their pockets filled with gold is a consolation they have, that you have not but I want to stay long enough to earn enough to pay my expenses if I can It is rather bad that Flour is so high this winter but probably it will be some lower next spring but if there is a general war in Europe it will probably be pretty high all summer

If Franklin Hart or Elbridge Rider cannot be hired this summer you had better get your Father or S. W. Furber to look you up a good man for the summer or else keep James to take care of you & hire the fence put up & let the work all go only hire a few days work of Mr Livermore or some one with a team to haul out some of the Manure on to the garden & perhaps plant a little patch of corn & manure it very much & sow with Oats or barley and seed down to grass pretty much all the ground that is plowed up & let the Farm "go to grass" it is of "not much account any how" without a good man on it Perhaps you might get Mr Livermore to plant & take care of an Acre of corn by the job by paying them money or if you could get Joseph Butler to take care of an Acre after it is planted on to help plant it, or it is of no great matter about it any how for it will cost about as much as it will come to I suppose. But dont worry nor fret yourself about any thing but take care of your health & be as comfortable as you can till I come home. You did not write any thing about how the hay holds out or whether you will have enough to "spring on to" I am some afraid that the sheep will get poor & loose their lambs if there is not trough enough to feed them in James can nail some strips of board onto a plank or slab & make more they ought to be kept in two or three flocks

along toward spring especially & when warm
weather begins to come they ought to be fed
in cribs because they will trample the hay
into the dirt and waste it if it is throwed out
on the soft snow
I am not gone to meeting this forenoon but am
down in Isaac's Office writing to you I understand
there is no preaching to day Mr Bird has gone away
There are pens, ink & paper in abundance and I
am occupying the desk alone, but I hardly know
what more to write there are many things I want
to know but it takes so long for letters to go & come
that questions get old and the circumstances changed
before letters go & come Isaac had a letter from
Lucy yesterday & they were worrying about Antoinette
health & telling him that he must pack her right
off to the East by Express &c., and she has been
quite well & smart for two or three weeks & still
gaining I believe Isaac looks better but he is
perplexed & bothered sometimes with so many things
to think of & provide for especially when accidents
happen & the contractors dont get along with the work fast
enough &c yesterday 60 men left it & went off and
they were wanting two or three hundred more they
keep double crews at work night & day now both at
Bird, & at Little Muddy they are in a hurry to get the
foundations laid for the bridges before the water rises
The stone work at Big Muddy Bridge will be 50 feet high
from the bottom of the foundation to the wood work of the Bridge
The Irish laborers are coming & going all the time but it is
difficult to keep as many hands as they want, G. W. Rich

To James R. Searles

Du Quoin Feb 19th 1854

My Dear-Nephew

I have just written a letter ~~to~~ send home & I will write a few lines to you

I suppose that if Uncle Mark Kittredy was not there that perhaps you have had rather a hard time to take care of the things alone but I think that when school is done if your Father can spare you that ~~if~~ you are careful & faithful you can get along quite well perhaps till ~~he~~ can hire a man & I will pay you what is right for what you do; I want you should look well to the sheep & not let them get poor they will be very apt to loose there lambs if they do, & be very careful and not let them waste their hay they need considerable attention in the spring of the year, If you have to water the cattle at the brook or at the River you will need to see to them & drive them to water & back The sheep had better be kept from straying away in the spring because of so many wet places that they may get into and loose their lambs But you are old enough to use your judgment and take care of all such things & I presume you will.

Your Affectionate Uncle C. W. Rich

James you must write to me & tell me all about how you get along with the stock & how much hay there is how the cattle & sheep look & how many lambs &c &c &c

They have got the track laid on Isaac Div
of the Rail Road about 16 miles & they have
a small Engine that comes up every day from
Big Muddy River & sometimes 2 times a day & hauls
the Iron Rails for the track The Engine hauls about
50 Tons at a load & every time they come up they
shove the boarding cars along. The boarding cars
are small cabins or houses built on freight cars for
the men to live in who work at track laying
& as fast as they lay the they shove their houses
along so they board all the time near there work
The Steem Engine is quite a curiosity to the
people about here there are a good many every
day that come to see the wonder most of them
on horseback there are a good many pretty
good horses. It costs but little to rais cattle
& horses in this country they most of run out
on the fields all winter they call them up night
& morning and give them a few ears of corn and
they almost get there own living some of the
Farmers have 20 or 30 horses & colts & Mules &c and
large stocks of cattle & nothing but an old kind of
a shed or hovel for them to run under in cold
storms & gather their corn & put it in pens
made of rails laid up like a log house in a square
& covered with boards & some of only gather it
as they want to use it till Spring, there is
considerable corn standing in the fields yet
the stalks are so stout that it do not fall down

C. W. Rich

1854

Du Quoin Perry Co Ills Feb 26th

Dear Wife I believe I have written about every week since I have been here, I dont seem to have any thing special to write now, but still I will scribble a few lines but may not send it till another week I some expect I should have got another letter from you to day but I find none I suppose that the children & the various can take up your time so much that you have but little leisure. I am afraid that going to the barn to look after the things there will be too hard for you you must be very careful especially when it comes to be sloppy & wet in the spring

It has been quite comfortable weather all the week past the ground froze a little night two or three times but the frost all out by 9 O'clock but it began to rain last night about dark just as I got in to Du Quoin from the Station at New Du Quoin where I have have been the week past with 6 hands at work upon a house for a boarding house We have the lumber brought up from De Soto (about 12 miles below) by the cars I have had to go down with the train once or twice to get such as we wanted

I expect that we shall have to go this week & build another watering place the engine cannot go more than 10 or 12 miles & back without watering & we have to build a platform and set a large tub (which holds 75 or 80 barrell of water) as high as the top of the engine tender so that the water will run from it into the tender to fill the boiler, & not having got the regular well, & watering place fixed they have to fix temporary watering places for the constructing engine. The bell rings for meeting & I reckon I'll go Sabbath morn, just come back from meeting, Sermon upon the duty of Fasting & Prayer there were but few out to meeting though it does not rain much but the wind blows somewhat damp & chilly out & looks as though it would clear off colder by tomorrow, but I am quite comfortable now in Isaac Office writing without a fire but shall not stop long for Dinner will be ready soon

I have had a letter from Emma, ie, (from Ellen Cook DeWitt of Elyria) last week, she writes that they think of going East next summer probably in June, Isaac thinks of going to Elyria, with Antoinette & have her go east in company with Anne & probably I can leave long enough to go after her next fall, but it will be very difficult for him to leave long at a time, he has to be here every pay day that is once a month to make up the account of the work done & pay contractors &c

I suppose that it will probably be near the middle of March before you get this letter & I cannot anticipate the circumstances of your case & the exact situation of the affairs at home so as to give directions to meet them, but if you have "keeping" plenty & can get a good man I should think you had better take to keep, or buy of Samuel a good yoke of Oxen, (not very old ones) but if not I think I would hire what was really necessary done by the job or by the day & let the work go and save the expence & trouble of boarding men but still you cannot well get along without a man & I think you had better hire a good one There will be work enough even without even cutting wood in the winter even if, in stead of using up that little brake or hemlock logs upon the knoll preparing fencing &c. & fixing up fences for a man all the time from the first of April. & I think that it is likely that you will loose more by not having one than the wages will amount to I can send you home some money at any time if you want any. I see by the prices in the N.Y. Tribune which I have taken that flour is very high & think it must be some lower but I fear though with the present prospect for a general war in Europe it will probably be pretty high for a year or two to come. as will also labor & every thing. But you must consult your father & Samuel & Eliab & see what you think best

Half past 3 P.M. I have been up to dinner two
chicken beans Minced pie cake coffee (last Sunday
had 5 Ducks and one great Turkey baked & roasted one
& it lasted) That there was but 5 or 6 to dinner
and the roast Turkey & 3 of the Ducks remained untouched
but we had the Turkey for breakfast next morning)
Stopped after dinner and read & eat apples & nuts
an hour and then came down to the Office (about
as far off as the barn) to finish my letter, it rains
and almost snows again it is too cold to stay
long without a fire I might take my writing
up to the sitting room but it is more convenient
writing in the Office & I shall not be cold till I get
my sheet full enough of such nonsense
I am glad that Antoinette's health seems to be improving
in fact we are all well. Isaac seems somewhat
troubled & care worn sometimes with so much
care & responsibility though I guess he gets along
pretty well
I have not began to make any calculation about
coming home yet nor shall not at present if you
can get along comfortably there without me it
will be best for me to stop here a while longer
If you have not got much wood up perhaps you
can get Mr Livermore to haul you some along
as the snow goes off
I want you to be careful & not have the cattle
too hard along as the snow gets soft I suppose it
wont hurt him to use him moderately, he is such a
fine if an animal that I expect he will be rather
large when young & will require a longer growth
& more strength than most steers &c

x but I think he will even handle manure a good deal if not overworked while young
the one I sold Probasco was more than seven years old when he got him

Du Quoin March 5th 1864

My Dear Wife & Mother

I received yours of Feb 9th & 11th the first day of March was very sorry to hear that Jonie had been so sick but glad to hear that he was better. The warm sunny days when the snow melts a little & wets is just the time for littles ones to take cold by playing till they get a little warm & sweaty and then remaining out till they get cold

I am glad Mother is up there with you but she can stay till I come home but I am afraid you have rather hard time for wood I should think Mr Livermore could furnish you with Juniper or hair wood if he is about home; as soon as the snow settles away perhaps you can get some out over east

It is bad for Mr Sargent & his Wife both to be sick at once what will they do if they should live to be old with no children to take care of them. I have been at work the past week 4 mile above Du Quoin Station making a temporary Water Station, got it running Friday did not come up to Du Quoin till to day & got a horse of the man with whom I board & rode here shall go back again to night

we have got the boarding house most done.
shall probably go to work upon the freight house
soon there is a good deal of work to be done to
get the buildings all along the line built
& every thing in running order
I wrote to you last week as indeed I have almost
every week; but I will just write a line to
let you know that I have got your last
letter for I suppose like that you would expect
that I should have received your last before
the date of My last
I want very much to come home before our
new Brother Doct De Witt comes to visit us but
I am receiving pretty good wages here and it
would be better for me to stay till about hoeing time
if you could conveniently get along without me
But I do not see how you can get along without
me unless you can get a man to help you
perhaps you had better get Samuel to make enquiry
at Brownville &c &c & see what can be done and
write me it seems droll if there is not any boy to
be got at any price & I cant hardly think of any
one could not Prentice paint the house but if
you can not conveniently get it done you can
let it go till I come home
Antoinette has just commenced playing & singing
with her Melodeon & I cant help & must
quit it is an excellent Instrument & she plays & sings
beautifully I must step and hear her

½ past 3 o'clock P.M. the bell rings for afternoon meeting Isaac & Antoinette have gone but I think I will stop and finish my letter though I dont know as I have much of any thing more to write. the weather is real pleasant & warm to day like May days the Spring birds sing in the morning & the frogs in the evening & the grass starts but it is not fairly got on its green jacket yet but the early plants start some in fact we have hardly had any winter here (I shall loose this winter) we had a pretty heavy rain Thursday last but it only lasted one day as most all the storms since I have been here have only been one day storms. It is really a delightful climate for winter at least it has been this winter I dont know what it will be in the summer. I have been very well & rugged most of the time since I have been here I believe the climate agrees with me (in winter at any rate)
I have got to go back to the Main Station to night and wont stop to write much more Samuel came over with me to day but he came of[f] & I rode home I want to hear how you get along about hay I am afraid you will be short if you do not have Enoch Mark to husband it for you. tell James that he must be faithful & take good care of every thing & I will pay him for it to his satisfaction I suppose that if they can not find that you have some lumber to take care of by this time the best way to take care of lumber is to take care of the sheep first

It comes rather hard on Charlie this loss on his Susan Duncan &c he ought to have most all the proffits after paying Haskins the Interest on his capital as he has done about all the business but I think if he goes by himself he will do well, if he is careful to go safely He will stand a very fair chance for customers among his own & Haskins, & Browns customers, he is a real good boy and deserves well, I suppose Mariah has not been up to Mil. yet, how do you like her, (Mother) I thought from what little I saw of her that she would be a good wife she seemed very affectionate & kind & I thought probably would have good sense enough to accept herself to the circumstance in which she might be placed,

I cannot stop to write any more now if I had anything more to write - write often, write particulars & Mother too write

Yours

C. W. Rich

Tell Josie I hope he has got well before this time & he must be careful and not go out in the wet without Mother says he may,
I suppose that Charlie & Josie are both very good boys by this time, & learn their book well and are pleasant & kind to each other and to little Sis & always mind quick what their Mother & Grand Mother tells them

C. W. Rich

Du Quoin Saturday Eve March 11th 1854.

This day seven years, if I mistake not, was my wedding day, With a young lady of Mich by name A. L. K., and I hope that She, With her children three All happy and contented may be, Enjoying good health with a prospect of wealth, and blessings with me

I expected to have got a letter from you to night but there has been so much rain within a week that I suppose it will retard the mails some, it rained last Monday & Tuesday & Thursday & Friday like a shower almost all the time it came down some of the time faster than it could run off and made the Prairie look almost like a lake, and in the course of one day after it stopped raining it would dream off and become quite dry except in those flat places & where the mud is trod up I think I never saw so much rain in the same time at the East I expected that we should have enough when it came it has been so remarkably pleasant & dry weather all the fall & winter. I was sent over a horse for me to ride to Du Quoin this afternoon. Hee is real good and so is Antoinette Mr Rice a gentleman from Chicago is Contractor on the Track laying department is here to night he started in the morning for home but the streams were so high that he could not get along & so he came back to stop till Monday. He is a fine Singer & Antoinette with her Instrument make quite a good sociable sing Mr Smith & I help a little occasionally, after hearing the singing thought I would come down to the Office and write a little but it is now after 9 and I must go up & go to bed, Good night

Sabbath Morning after breakfast) It has been a pleasant a morning as you ever saw the sun shines bright with a good pork breeze mild and soft like may, the grass (where it has been burned over or fed down) looks green, but the trees have not started yet except Ivy, Willows which are quite green and the lilacs begin to I have got a fire in the Office & as the Engineers are not here to day I shall have a good time to write all by myself

I want to know how you get along, when I have a letter it is so long in coming that I dont know how you are but only how you were two or three weeks ago so I must write 2 or 3 weeks in advance I hope you have found a good man before this time if you have not perhaps you had better ask your Father about Virus Chase the man that Mr Gilman told of or get your Father to hire somebody for you. I want you to write whether & how you can get along if I should not be at home untill the first of July, in that case I dont see but you must have a man & you will need a yoke of Oxen about working out the Taxes &c

I should like to have some of those little apple trees transplanted early this spring if convenient, rows made to correspond with those which I set out two years ago,

I will write a little how I was calculating to cultivate the Farm this year so that if you should have a hired man or can get the work done by the job without its costing too much, you can have a little guide about it but still you can act according to circumstances

Last fall prepared a piece of ground for carrots, as you will recollect intending to sow a part of them in the fall, but did not sow them I should like to have the ground (about half an acre on the upper part of the plowed ground on the Intervale by the River down about to the first Elm tree) pulverized on top well with harrow or cultivator and the carrot

Seed sowed very early so that it may get start before the weeds grow. Sowed mostly with carrots & Parsnips. The Beets & Turnips need not be sowed quite so early. Carrots mainly The rest of that piece of ground might be sowed with Oats & seeded to grass. The large piece of Buckwheat ground which I seeded to grass last year will need more grass seed sown on it this spring, best sowed on the light snow, and likewise the one Acre piece which I plowed up and seeded to grass last fall just south of the Buckwheat piece & joining it will need more grass seed sowed on it this spring. The three cornered or flat Iron shaped piece which I last year sowed partly with Buckwheat & partly planted with late Corn &c. I was intending to manure thoroughly especially that part of it on which I sowed Buckwheat and plant it with corn or a part of the pointed of it might be sowed with Oats and seeded with grass seed The piece of wet ground just south of the last named, which was broke up last fall, if whenever it is dry enough may be harrowed down smooth as can be conveniently and sowed with grass seed or if it, or part of it, should be pretty dry, it might be sowed with Oats & grass seed. The broke up ground out on the knoll if it can be harrowed down tolerably smoothe may be sowed also with Oats & grass seed. The two pieces in the North field where we had corn last year may be sowed with Oats or Barley or Wheat & seeded down. & Charlie & Jane can pick up the stones on that little piece north the house which was seeded down last year. That round the house may be thoroughly manured and used for a garden except perhaps a little piece in the northwest corner of it which is very full of thistles which might be sowed with Peas, a little patch sowed, hoed & harrowed in

There was considerable very good hay seed (in the chaff left of last year packed away in a box: & I saved a good quantity last year (saved to sow & not to sell) which if it was threshed out and properly saved will be suffcient to seed pretty near all the ground that will want to be seeded this year I want to get the land all well seeded down to grass as soon as I can for it does not cost much to cultivate land that is in grass & the hay will pay about as well as any thing, & if it will not sell it will not cost much to keep it

I have been to meting this forenoon Sermon by Mr Bird Text: ye have said that it is vain to serve God he told how people said by their actions if not by their words that it was vain to serve God by not attending meeting &c &c a pretty good discourse but rather long I came to Mr Broad stopped to Sabbath School & did not get back till the Turkey was partly consumed & partly cold they ought to have waited for them but they rang the bell before they knew that they had not come in there were some half doz sat down and went at the Turkey & when Mr Broad (who is a real gentleman & wealthy from Chicago) he began to excuse himself for keeping them from their dinner & then Mrs Keyes (Mr Keyes being absent, or it would have gone more regular) began to excuse the matter for sitting down before they came in, however the Turkey being a large one I presume they got enough, but it seemed rather out of sorts, not to wait a little for the two biggest (toads in the Puddle)

I came down to the Office (in which I left a good fire in the stove and the stove shut up) and wrote a spell when Mr Smith came in with Mr Gilchrist Jr came over from Little Meyers to talk over matters concerning their sawing mill, Smith is the contractor for sawing.

The Puddle is up for meeting. Meeting over I guess 1 P.M.

1854

Lu Verne Sabbath P.M. 2 oclock March 19th

Dear Albina

I have received this last week since the 15th of March quite a packet of letters one from you dated 2nd of Feb. & from Samuel the 6th Feb one from Lucy 15th and from you and Mother 15th March I to 7 The letters dont seem to follow each other as they are sent but wait for each other company

You enquire when I intend to come home I have not concluded yet I am waiting to hear how you can get along & what you can do without me I suppose that you have had a pretty hard time of it this winter & I am sorry for you but as the winter will have gone by before I can get there if I should start right off and the hardest of it will be over with I feel inclined to stop long enough to earn enough to pay my expences in coming out & back if you can comfortably get along without me that you must have somebody or I must come right home early in the Spring I wrote you about the farming work last week there is not so much work laid out for this summer which must necessarily be done but that one decently good hand could get along with it well enough till about hay time

if you have a good yoke of Oxen & can change work with them some If you have hay so that can get along I think that you had better have a yoke of Oxen we shall need them any how I have written to Samuel to furnish you a good yoke, & reasonable, either to buy or take to keep if you cannot get one older & better hand. I should think that George Hoskins if you could get him for any reasonable wages would do very well he knows better than any other one by working for us last summer & fall what my intentions were about the farming business & how I was going to manage & I think he would be pretty faithful & by changing work some could easily do what must be done till June — perhaps by giving pretty good wages his father would let him come though I think likely enough that George would rather go down to Old Town or somewhere if so perhaps your Father or Samuel can find some one else I want to know what you can do in order to determine what to do & when to come home I am getting pretty good wages here & as soon as I leave my wages will stop you know & my expenses will be about the same whether I stay longer or shorter. I know that you want to see me as I do you & the Children but still some folks do stay away from for a longer time than I shall & still get home alive it seems a long time to look ahead to two months before

coming home & I dont know as I can stand it here so long but still I am pretty busily employed and the days slip along one after another & do not seem very long only when I look ahead and think of home
I shall want a hired man in haying at any rate & perhaps it will be as easy to hire a hand by the season as to hire one in haying If Erbie & Willis are both gone this Spring I suppose that Mr Rider will want Jones at home and you will need & must have somebody But what is the use of my writing about that for before this reaches you, the exigency will have passed and you will have found somebody I need to know & write 3 or 4 weeks in advance it takes so long for letters to pass to & from the circumstances change before you can get a letter here & get an answer to it
I think you had better get the cattle pastured in a good pasture some where if you can and have them out of the way & there ought to be particular pains taken where the sheep are put turned to pasture and not let them get in the habit of getting out. There are so few cattle this summer that I think you will not be so much troubled with them as we have been
I am sorry for Mr Sargent he has been so sick I am afraid he will never enjoy very good health again if he gets well Yours C. W. Rich

I can Hardly believe we received yours of the first & 7th of March in quite a reasonable time it came the 17 or 18 of March & the letter that you wrote after you came up to Nile came quick but they are generally a long time on the way I have him gone up to Little Muddy & from there to Centralia at the Junction & did not know but that he should go to St Louis before he came back & as he has not got home yet think he has probably gone to St Louis he started last Wednesday & will probably be gone 2 or 3 days longer

Antoinette is quite unwell yesterday & to day seems to have some considerable fever I hope she is not going to be sick again, little D. Hugo is pretty well has got one tooth they have got a pretty good girl to take care of him that is very kind & good & tolerably sensible but dont know every thing

I have been to meeting this forenoon Mr Bird preached upon the Subject of Slavery he is quite a sound man on most subject I think he has gone this P.M. to preach over at the Depot in the new unfinished boarding house there are but few families apparently any where near the Depot but come to go round by the edge of the Prairie & in the skirts of the Timber the little cabins & houses are quite thick there are probably from 75 to 100 families and perhaps more within ½ hours ride of the Depot and no meeting house or school house thought of

I write this in haste as I have got my wife almost full I hope you will excuse it I expect to leave home to go on that I came up for about the 1st of April

Du Quoin March 26th 1874

Dear Wife

I walked in from the Station this morning thinking that perhaps I might find a letter from you but I find none. & I dont know as I have any thing in particular to write till I hear from home again, but I believe I will send you a sheet of paper if nothing else. Last week I wrote most all day sunday & made out about 15 pages to Milo & Bangor. Antoinette is quite unwell yet, has had some fever ever since last week but is some better now than last Sabbath. Isaac caught the illness occasioned by being frightened by the stove pipe falling down near the baby, & perhaps partly by too much exertion in playing & singing when Mr Broad from Chicago was here the week before. It is very warm & pleasant to day though there was quite a hard frost last night but the air being so dry that it probably not hurt the Peaches much although they are beginning to blossom. I went to Meeting this forenoon. Sermon against slander & there was likewise a wedding an old Irish man partly grey headed & I believe a Bachelor to a woman not very young but what makes the wedding more noticeable here is the circumstance, that a lot of young fellows; Rowdies; about

six or eight weeks ago thought they were married on a certain evening & went & gave them a serenade or rather a Shivaree as they call it here it being instead of a Serenade a salutation in the night round about the house & all over the neighborhood with cowbells old tin pans, & horns tin trumpets & every thing they can get that will make a great noise & tumult, but it happened that the couple were not married at the time supposed but were married to day It has now been 3 or 4 weeks since the grass has began to start and show itself where the ground was burned over but still it is only started yet not more than one week of warm weather would in our country the bud & every thing put out flower than with us where vegitation does not start so early but when it does start the sun being higher & the days longer things grow more rapidly, I have just picked a Peach blossom & a strawberry blow and another little red blossom that grows on a bush, all covered so that it looks red with them I don't recollect the name of it & an apple tree bud some leaves &c will put some in this letter and send you a specimen of the climate though only a few of the earliest show any greenness yet. People about here have not began to plow yet but I should think that the ground was about dry enough & people are getting their ploughs fixed up ready for plowing

I have written to you every week for some time I dont know whether you get them all or not I want you should write whether & how you can get along without me till May or June & whether you can get any help if you cant I suppose I must come home sooner If you can get help to put in some crop & get a little stuff growing I suppose I can make more than enough to pay for the labor of doing what little work I calculated for this spring

It takes so long for letters to go & come that a body needs to know a month before what is a going to be & the circumstances which will arise I wrote 2 or 3 weeks ago particulars about the farming business I dont know whether you have received it or not I am hoping to receive a letter soon informing me what you can do & how you can get along &c and when I do shall conclude when to come home

I suppose that you have cold weather there yet & snow almost over the fences, but here it is like April or May I am afraid you will be short of hay for I suppose that it has been an unusually cold winter down East We shall want a yoke of Oxen this spring & if you have keeping enough we had better get a yoke of Samuel when they come out of the woods though come to think about it they will probably be out before this reaches you so this will be advice after the event

Samuel came over with me this morning from the station he has gone back but I think I shall stop till morning before I go we are at work framing a building for the freight house 60 by 40 two stories high very heavy Oak timber have about 8 and 10 hands at work on it, have got it most framed The great rains here lately have put back & hindred the work down at Big Muddy Bridge considerable it raised the streams higher than hardly ever known except by the back water of the Missipsie which flows up Big Muddy making back water for 30 or 40 miles, but the Missipi has not begun to rise much yet it comes from a colder country where the snows have not melted yet, They are depending upon the back water of the Missipi to get their Iron up the Big Muddy to lay the track they have used up almost all the Iron which they have got, have laid about 25 miles on this division

Good by all of you, hope I shall have a letter next week Yours C. T. Rich

I have received my shirt & vest & drawers & shirt have not written you all & it is growing dark and all play

Dundonald Sabbath Morning April 2nd 1814

Dear Wife I Isaac brought me last Wednesday your letter of the 5th & 6th of March wherein you acknowledge the receipt of mine of the 19th Feb which went in a reasonable time but I do not get yours very often in less than three or four weeks I suppose that before this time you have received 2 or 3 more I wrote 3 or 4 weeks since particularly about the Farming work if you have not received it I must write it over again

I am glad you have engaged a man I hope he will prove to be a good one & give you satisfaction I suppose likely that a young man would be likely to do more work but perhaps the old man will be more careful and saving &c if he has naturally a decent share of good sense & judgement

The sheep will want particular attention paid to them when they are first turned to pasture to prevent them from getting a habit of getting out perhaps it would be best to get them up every night for a while as I did last spring you will be more likely to save the lambs & the sheep be more likely to be contented. There are so few cattle that I should think they would do pretty well the first part of the season to run at large as usual if they can without bothering the Pickens too much & the colts could run in the pasture by the barn & on the knowl but if we cant do any better we shall have to hire the cattle pastured I was intending to hire them pastured a part of the season after the feed begins to grow poor at home

We had quite a rain day before yesterday but it cleared off cold & yesterday (April 1st) there was a hard frost water frozen ¼ inch thick & it was about as cold this morning I presume the peaches are all killed at least all the early varieties they are just in full bloom but the grass & other things grow very slow it has now been 3 or 4 weeks since the grass began to start and it is not more grown than it is with us in three or four days of warm weather after a warm rain. The warm sun starts the vegitation early here but it does not grow so rapid as with us. There are some that have plowed & sowed some though but few have done much yet people say it is very backward here this spring hardly ever such a hard freeze known at this time of the year. The first bell rings (a half hour before meeting time) & I cant stop to write much more now. Samuel has just come from the Station he comes over about every Sabbath, to read the papers or write letters. I generally come over Saturday Evening on account of bringing in my time book &c to make up the pay roll &c or time book Mr Mitchell & Cooley are sitting by the stove in the Office reading their newspapers & Samuel & I are sitting by the desk & table writing but I reckon it is about time to be making preparations for going to meeting so I'll adjourn till P.M.

2 O'clock P.M. I have been to meeting & to dinner will scribble a little more & then go back to my Station to night. Mr Bird has a meeting there this afternoon Samuel has finished his letter and gone over to go to meeting he did not go home & I will write this instead of going over to meeting

Antoinette is still quite unwell she has had a kind of a slow fever for two weeks she is quite feeble though Isaac says she is better but she gets along rather slow I hope she will be able to go east as soon as the eastern climate becomes pleasant & warm enough Isaac seems to be pretty well and the little one for though he is some trouble some on account his teeth he does not go alone yet though he climbs up by things he has not been on the floor enough to learn how to creep, the floors are cold in winter. I dont know yet when I shall come home I guess not till some time in May perhaps I may conclude to stay till after Isaac goes east if he concludes to go himself with Antoinette which I should think would probably be sometime in May

I suppose that perhaps before this time you are out of flour & other things you can call upon Samuel for anything you need & if he cannot conveniently answer your call send to me for some money I suppose that you have the proceeds of the Oxen to come & go upon And the Taxes too, must be paid somehow, you must write me how you get along & what your means & prospects are for a living

I am sorry for Mr Sargents he is sick so long he will probably be better when warm weather comes if not sooner I suppose that James has gone home before this time if you have the money to spare you can pay him what you & Mother think right for his help this winter if not let it go till I come home Write me who are elected Town Officers &c

With regard to buying or taking Oxen
I cannot tell what is best not knowing
the price of Oxen or the scarcity or abundance
of keeping but it would be a great inconvenience
to do without all summer, working out so much
tax & getting the hay &c but by getting the advice
of your Father & of Samuel you can tell better
what to do than I can tell you
I suppose that perhaps by the time that this
gets there you may have your arrangements made
& the spring work commenced & Charlie & Josie
perhaps will be out in the North [illegible] field picking
rocks but as likely the snow will not have left
or only in spots but if so your man can be
chopping wood in the woods or cutting stone
preparing fencing stuff &c &c
I want to make a thorough trial of Carrots
this year I think there is a fair chance for a
good crop if they can be sowed early enough
I suppose that the Independent comes to you by
this time it is enlarged so that it is a very good paper
Perhaps your man can set out some of those
trees from the nursery this spring if so, set them
in rows to conform with those little trees already set
but not very near the house perhaps he knows
how to graft, if so, he can get some cions of J. Sargents
or Burnips and graft some in the nursery the cracked
but thrifty ones I scribble a lot every week not
because I have any thing in particular to write
but because I want to Your Affectionate Charles

Dixon Apr 9th 1864

Dear Wife

I have brought me last wednesday a letter from you & Mother dated 11th to 19 of March & mailed the 21st which came in a reasonable time compared with some only 14 days. You seem to have rather bad luck with your men but I hope you will succeed better soon but it is of no use for me to think any thing about it for of course you have got some one there before this time if your Old man has not come back

I hardly know what to write for I dont know how many of my letter you have got, I have written every week since the first of January and in some of them I have given some directions about the farming business. It will probably be almost the last of April before you get this & your man will have commenced his Spring work. I suppose or rather "I reckon" that the ground is now covered with snow only perhaps bare in spots, but maybe almost all off in the road, but as likely it is wintery yet while here the trees begin to look green the pear & cherry trees are in blossom, a week ago there was quite a cold rain the water rose so I did not think I thought it must have killed the Peaches which were

Enclosed is a description of the farming utensils the former owner sold me, the mowing machine I have been quite well since I left home only for seven or eight days but she is much better now she is not as low as the Station Spring. I am in hopes she will soon be entirely well

almost in full bloom but I believe it did not
they being up from the ground & there being
some air stirring they escaped without much injury
The weather this last week has been quite warm
& vegitation has altered more than in two or three
weeks before The people about here call this a late
& backward season they have not generally done
much at farming yet it is not necessary for
them to be in so much haste as it is with us
one man or boy with a horse & plow can easily
tend 30 or 40 acres of corn It is very common
for those that have large farms to let a part of
it to croppers as they are called. That is the owner
of the land furnishes a team & the other cultivates
the corn for the half or if the cropper finds team
he gives the owner of the land one third of the crop
It seems to me that this climate if a healthy location
could be found would be much more comfortable
than those cold frozen regions are one great advantage
they have here in raising stock, it costs so little to
winter it here a few years ago before the Prairies
were fed down so much cattle & horses would get
there living all winter the grass would be so thick
& high that it would be green at the bottom almost
all winter & now many do not feed them but little
the best farmers are just beginning to build barns
hardly one out of ten have any thing that can be
called a barn, only a shed & hardly that sometimes

Samuel has just come over from the Station he went yesterday to get his deposition taken with regard to a piece of land which he surveyed in N.H. before he came from home, about which there is a law suit pending & they sent a letter to him to get him to send his deposition about it He went to see a Justice & then walked to Pinckneyville 10 miles & back to see the clerk of the court but has not entirely accomplished it yet he has yet to send a plan of the survey with his deposition, he might just as well get a horse & rode but he chose to walk Samuel is a man of tolerable good judgement, some wit & more self conceite he thinks he knows considerable & is fond of showing it by tilting about his surveying land keeping school &c and sometimes shows too much by getting words wrong in pronunciation, or Biography &c he is pretty careful about his expences &c but on the whole is a pretty good sort of a man he has I should think rather broken down his constitution by hard work &c is troubled some with rheumatism he is rather stinky about lifting &c unless he can get a good chance to show his strength. seems to think his children pretty smart, tells about what Ben. & Sam. does &c & how his daughter wants him to get a Melodian or Pianna forte but he is not able &c. I guess his wife is pretty smart & perhaps rules the roost But I make no pretensions to any very great sagacity in judgment of mankind

I think it time by what I can write that I was in the land of the living. I have spent a pleasant May, & in the course of it I have visited Ben. & Sam. & how do you do? I shall stop here until

P.M. I had written so far when the bell rang for meeting, so I started off & Mr Bird preached upon the authenticity of the Bible quite a good discourse. I came back to the Office to finish my letter, but the bell rings for dinner and so I must go.

I have been up to dinner the Post Turkey was very large & pretty fat but Mr Hayes sent away most of his boarders none left only Isaac & his Assistants &c Mr Rowley one of the contractors (& quite a gentleman) was here to day but Mr Mitchell and all except Samuel & I were away Mr Hayes house has been a home for every body & Co's men till lately Mrs H. has got tired of so much company I suppose they would be glad if Sarah I would keep away I don't calculate to stop here much more. But while Isaac boards here the Engineers have to come occasionally to make report & they cant get rid of them Mr Hayes is under some obligation to Isaac & I don't know as he wants to get rid of him & if he has him he must have his assistants too occasionally You may say, your having so many letters from me in print, & the circumstance of Isaac's Office being such a convenient place to write with good pens, ink & paper in abundance & to day Mr Mitchell is gone away & there is nobody here but Samuel & I. the wind blows quite fresh but it is perfectly comfortable without a fire. Adieu &c

E. M. Bird

Tell Charlie & Josie that I am glad to hear that they are good children & I hope they will learn to read well & always be good & kind & pleasant to each other & to little Sister

Saturday Apr. 15th 1854 7½ Oclock P.M.

Ps Isaac came back from Little Muddy this afternoon (where he has been gone two days) I had a chance to ride in from the Station & found a letter from you dated 20 to 29 of March. I received one this week from your Father dated 26th I am sorry that you have so many trials perplexities & discomforts &c I should not have thought of your getting along at all without a man I thought James, though acquainted with the cattle &c and with my way of taking care of them was hardly sufficient to have the management of them alone but I thought that he & Uncle Mark together might get along pretty comfortably but to have nobody but Summers & Charlie to take care of the team is rather tight It is quite unfortunate that your Old man Meder should fail you so soon but if you can keep Reece Frost (or perhaps it is one of the Frost boys & I dont know but that they are just as good as Reece,) I hope your man will come back soon, or rather that he has been back this two weeks I expected Uncle Mark would have made some more long troughs, (there were 3 or 4 already) to feed the sheep with grain in & fixed so as to put them in two or three separate yards *

a change of climate & unusual exposure but get over it shortly.

Sabbath Morning 8 ½ Oclock I have got a good fire in the Office Mr Mitchell is not here to day & I shall the Office & the day to myself

The rain, which was last night has turned to snow the ground covered & it is snowing fast a regular down East, snow storm such as we frequently have in May down east the trees which were yesterday green, except the blossoms, Apple trees being in full Bloom are now almost white being covered with snow, but if it clear off warm it will not hurt the fruit I think that, so far as I can judge from what I have seen & from observations made by the natives, here, upon the weather that there is much less stormy weather here than in Maine the storms less frequent & less violent if we except the great rain in March which I have spoken of before the weather since the first of April has much like the month of May in our latitude though I think that there is about 6 weeks difference in the blossoming of fruit trees As far as I have seen yet this country is as healthy & more so than maine there has been within my knowledge but 2 or 4 deaths within the circle of my observation which has been up & down the road 15 or 20 miles & those mostly of Children & there has been but few cases of any thing like severe sickness there is 3 or 4 Doctors within this same circle & I should think that they all have not had half so much practice since I have been here as Doct Kimball usually has in the same time, and if they had much to do they would not stick if they had much to do they charge I should think

I think I have not enjoyed so good health since the commencement of the winter as I have this winter I have frequently had cold for a few days but got over it easily

for some years as I

*and I, thought, to give them a little provender all winter so as to be more likely to save the lambs. You must have had an uncomfortable dreary & hard time there this winter besides the vexation of seeing things go wrong & loss of lambs &c &c besides other inconveniences & perplexities &c to numerous to enumerate

But if things go hard & look dark, the way is to pluck up the more courage & resolution and bear up with the more energy & firmness & perseverance looking forward with confidence to the "good time a coming"

I was afraid from the first that Uncle Hook (not being used to taking care of so many cattle & sheep) would not have judgement to know how much to give so many sheep but you have been worse off still by his going away and having only James but come to know down still a Peg lower and have only Summer, you must have been rather hard up however I suppose of course you have got some body before this time (Middle of April) & the cold weather being gone you will get along more comfortable and as for your wanting to see me, so much well I want to see you just as much so that makes it even, & the children to boot but others have lived 4 or 5 miles away from home and perhaps I can if I try — hard — & if I go away again I will try and not leave so much work &c for you to take care of

It is now past nine Oclock but I want to write a few lines this evening & he has not got quite through yet but will be soon so I shall not write much more now but finish this to morrow

It rains moderately this evening it has been rainy since Thursday noon, We commenced last Thursday to raise the Freight House at the Station got one bent up & had to quit for the rain, I have been at work with eight or ten hands for 3 or 4 weeks framing it & have just got it ready to raise it is very heavy Timber all Oak most all white Oak the Building 60 feet by 40 & 20 ft posts & the sills set up 5 or 6 ft from the ground it took upwards of 150 days work to frame it a part of our crew have been at work lately upon the Passenger house the R R Buildings on this line are to be built in a stile not surpassed by any & the cars engines will be of the first class There is now laid about 30 miles of track on this Division (there was about 8 laid when I came here) but the track laying department have stoped work on this Div for a few weeks for the want of Iron (they not being able to get the Iron up the Big Muddy till the Mississippi rises so as to back up Big Muddy & make it boating up to the track It will probably be nearly a year before the road will be so far completed as that the cars can run through the whole line from Cairo to Chicago although it is confidently expected by some that they will get it through by next fall

Du Quoin Apl 23d 1854

My Dear Wife

I received a letter last Wednesday from you dated April 1st & 3d Mailed 6th & likewise one yesterday from Mother to Isaac at the same time one from Lucy dated Apl 8th and last night I received another from you dated Apl 6th & 10th which came in eleven days only.

I am glad to hear by your letter that you are going to have Walter Rider there he will be likely to take better care of & use to things better than a boy I think it will be well if Walter can do it to paint the out side of the house two coats & window sash, but unless you have paint for it I doubt if it is expedient to paint inside any till I come home With regard to a carpet for the east chamber the I suppose we shall need a new bed washstand table chairs &c as well as a carpet to furnish that room decently but I have not thought any thing about that yet If you think best to get any of them you can but I want to be as economical as I can conveniently untill I get my debts paid. I thought Campbell was a going to wait untill I came home unless you had something that you could spare for him along in the winter. but if he is in a hurry for his pay I will send home some money if you need it to pay him & likewise to pay Taxes I did not know but you might have something from the proceeds of the Oxen that you could spare, but perhaps you may have eat the Oxen up

I wrote you some time ago particularly about the farming, but perhaps you have never received it but if Walter come there he can act his own judgement about it. I wanted to be getting the land (that I now have plowed) seeded down to grass as fast as I can get it in order to seed, & can get seed for it. There is quite a large quantity of seed now on hand if it has been threshed out & taken care of & I wanted to give that piece that I fixed for carrots last fall on the inter-vale a thorough trial with carrots if they can be sowed early, but I suppose it is useless for me to write now any thing about the farming operations for perhaps you will have got most done before this reaches you though it may find snow banks there yet Every thing is green here & the farmers are preparing to plant corn it is about like the first of June there. It seems that Samuel & Elial have made a pretty large purchase, it is something of a risk but I should think that they might do well

If the colt has the horse-ale he ought to be dusted some & Physicked well with Sulphur & Salt, & Thoroughwarbe I should like very much to be at home when Anne & Mr De witt comes there, & probably Elial & his wife & Samuel & Lucy, you will have fine times for this Br. De Witt is a real good jovial, social kind of a man & a real Gentleman I am sorry on Anna account that I can't have things fixed up in better style before they come, but you will have for an excuse, that I have been gone so long from home & whereas if I was at home I should have no excuse, but if Walter is there he will have things fixed up some, Walter had better hire

I thank Dick for his news about Sheldon. I have gotten that the can read right of right—a most a whole Testament—& how much Josie can read & spell & whether Mary has got to be a pleasant little

a few days work if he can when he has hard work to do such as shoveling manure mending fence &c so that it will not be too hard for him We have just got the Freight-house raised at the Station in New Dubuque it is a very large heavy frame 60 ft by 40, & 20 ft post. all Oak timber it took 10 or 12 of us three days to raise the body of it with a Jack & fall & a windlass for Power, it cost about 50 days work to raise it & it took nearly 150 days work to frame it. The Chicago Mechanic in their estimates for the Freight houses put the framing of them at 250 dolls but it is a very different thing to frame a large building of green white Oak timber from Pine timber it is so heavy to handle as well as hard to work

There is quite a fine prospect from the top of the Freight house (about 30 or 35 ft high can see all over the Prairie from 3 to 5 miles each way dotted with farm houses all round the skirts with fields enclosed but all through the middle mostly open or unenclosed but sprinkled over with herds of cattle & horses & Mules & flocks of sheep every body turns their cattle, horses, Mules, hogs & sheep into the open Prairie there is enough feed for all and a great many have large stocks the Man who I board with has 20 or 30 horses & Mules colts & perhaps as many or more cattle & 70 or 80 sheep but the land in this Prairie is all entered & will probably be all fenced into fields in a few years & then the farmers will have to pasture their own cattle & they will probably not keep so many. Good Prairie land is worth 10 or 12 dollars & can hardly be bought for that at present

If you think that money will not pay for living as you have this winter & I dont know as it will & it does seem a hard & slow way to procure a competance, to go so far and work for it even at good wages to what it would to go into some good speculation & make from 1000, to 5 or 10000, in a year as some do, but still as I am here and must necessarily incur considerable expence & suffer some loss & as the loss & expence will not be much more for staying a little longer & I am getting pretty good wages, I think I had better stop 4 or 6 weeks longer or at least till Isaac returns from the east I should like very much to take a journey up through Iowa & Minnesota Wisconsin &c to see the country before I return if I could spare the time & expense but I dont know whether I shall or not if I should I should like to go in such a season of the year as that I could judge of the merits of the country but travelling is expensive business Antoinette seems to be getting along pretty well & gaining strength she went to meeting this forenoon The little boy is pretty well has got some teeth I dont know how many he creeps about over the floor & gets up by chairs &c, it seems rather hard for Antoinette that she has had to have somebody else to take care of him so much though I guess that their girl is pretty industrious in the main but a Mother would rather take care of their own little ones The weather is pretty warm to day the thermometer in Isaacs Office is now (3 o'clock P.M) about 82 degrees it was about 70 this morning 5 A.M. Yours C.W. Rich

I should write to Mother myself but after writing all that I can think of to Mary I seem to have any thing to write & myself out of so the most I leave & share of this

I have not written any thing about home for not having any letter this week I sent I know what it was I received enough last week & week before last it arrives for 2 or 3 week Yours

E. M. Mitchell

Du Quoin Apr 30th 1854

Dear Wife. As Isaac is intending to start for the east the last of this week I will just scribble a few lines to you although not having received any letter since I wrote last week I don't know as I shall find much to say I shall send this by him for I suppose that if he starts a week after the mail he would get there before the letter would by mail. Every little rise of water here stops the mail for a day or two the principle reason of it I suppose is because the country is so flat that the water does not run so rapidly as in a hilly country & therefor fills up the streams more & in many places there are no bridges & in dry weather they do not need them for there is very little water runs except just after a rain & then perhaps it will spread over the bank.

I wrote you last week that the weather was quite warm the thermometer up to 82° since then we have had quite a smart rain with high wind & cleared off cold with some frost one or two mornings & it has been cool enough to make a fire feel comfortable most of the week we now have got a fire in the office Mr. Mitchell is reading his News Paper he usually keeps himself

in the office Sundays reading, writing letters &c
hardly ever goes to meeting. Crosby usually goes
to meeting when he is here but the Track is now
laid so far up the line (about 15 miles above the
station) that he (Crosby) does not come down here
very often. This Du2uoin is really a pretty place
now that the trees are all covered with green leaves
The village is situated on a little hill or knoll
particips ½ mill wide and ~~one~~ mile long thickly
sprinkled over with Fruit & shade trees and on
one side there is a kind of natural growth of
small wood and brush &c and the hill is just
high enough to overlook the surrounding Prairie
& within view of the New Du2uoin Station
There is quite a movement being made towards
getting up a female Seminiary here at Du2uoin
they have already I believe got about 12 or 15 hundred
Dollars subscribed towards a fund I believe aim
at getting 20 thousand Mr Bird the Minister
here it is expected will go off as an agent to
solicit subscriptions for it. I think this a
very good location for an institution of the
kind it is four miles from Du2uoin Station
& a very pleasent & healthy location for this
country Du2uoin is mostly inhabited by Yankees
& the houses in & about the village are mostly
neat little houses painted white very different
from Suckerdom in general

Samuel has just come over here is now writing a letter to his Wife I spose, he comes over as often as he wants to write home which is general once in two or three weeks, he talks of going home in 3 or 4 weeks he likes the country pretty well seems to talk like he would move out into this western country somewhere in the course of 5 or 6 years after his children get their schooling the chance for schools here are not so good as they are in New England States, you see Samuel is just about 3 month younger than I am and he has got one Son in Boston, Grown up, and at work as fireman on a Steam ferry Boat one Son 18 years old at home & a Daughter old enough to keep school & two or three other children part grown so you see how much the start he has got but I cant make it seem to me that I am as old has he looks to be

This is unquestionably a much easier country to get a living in than the eastern States (provided one has good health, and I dont see yet but that it is as healthy) It costs almost nothing to raise stock & still it fetches a pretty good price, the man where I board sold a Mule the other day for 150, doll he has 7 yearlings Mules that he values at about 100, doll a piece the raising Mules here is at present a very profitable business but how long they will sell so readily is uncertain

I have no doubt but that if I had the value of my property there invested almost any where about here I could save 500, where I now cannot 100, but still there are some drawbacks to this country one thing is that Fruit is very uncertain the early warm weather starts vegitation and then the frost frequently kills the Fruit & the insects are more numerous & annoying, & there are some rattlesnakes & then the country is subject to continued dry weather or extreemly wet & I dont know but that there are as sudden changes of Temperature here as there though not so much difference between the winter & summer

+ Bro Olmsted from Cairo preached this forenoon will preach this afternoon at 4 Oclock upon Christian Education probable some what in reference to the effort of getting up a Seminary hear the first bell rang. a few minits since and it is about time to go to meeting so I will finish this after meeting the bell rings again so I'll go

I went to meeting this P.M. expecting to an address upon the subject of Christian education by Mr. Olmsted from Cairo who preached this A.M. but was disappointed the Desk was preoccupied by an young upstart of a Methodist preacher who had an appointment for that time of 2 or 3 weeks standing but who it was expected, when the other appointment was made would not be here, I should have thought that almost any body but a Methodist Preacher on such an occasion of a pretty great many & a stranger from a distance 50 miles would have given up their appointment +

x especially as 2/3 or 3/4 of the congregation were not Methodists, but the Methodists are about this same, or worse, every where

St Louis May 7th 1854

My Dear Albina

I received your & Mothers of the 11th of April last on Friday the 5th of May Isaac brought it along as he was on his way to St Louis He and Antoinette started Friday Morning for the east are now probably at St Louis, were expecting to stop there about one day on account of some business with Mr Mason. will probably start from St Louis Tuesday will perhaps a day at Chicago & May be at Elysia but still he May be in Bangor before this letter reaches Milo; as the regular mail does not leave here till the last of the week therefore I expect it will be nearly a week longer in going

You wrote that you had concluded to write once More thinking I might possibly get it before I started for home, I expect to write a number of letters yet before I start for home & I hope I shall receive some more too, You need not be concerned, I will give you timely warning of the time of my starting so that you will not be in danger of loosing the paper on which you write. I suppose now that you have got Walter Rider there you will get along nicely without me & therefore I need not be in a hurry about coming home, I wish Isaac could go up to Milo but I suppose he will not have time to stop

You write that the snow is now (14th April) 2 or 3 feet Deep I suppose that is in the woods, not on the open hills but I suppose the ocean is unusually backward in this or there would be more open water than common but I guess that this letter will find the snow gone off & the boys out fishing alewives or Mountain Trout

on some thing
& Little Dabs

I think now that I shall stay here till Isaac returns & then I shall probably write you when I shall start for home or somewhere
I dont know as it is of any use for me to write any more particular about the farming at present Walter can go on with it as if it was his & if he needs more help perhaps you can hire some boys workes about the hardest of the work & perhaps hire a boy some but I expect that he will have to do some as I have been obliged to heretofore, ie. to fix things in the "do for the present stile".
There is quite a large quantity of manure under the barn floor but it cannot be got out without taking up the floor & perhaps it will not be worth while to meddle with it this year though there will not be much besides that will be suitable to plant corn on if you should you must get Mr Ricker or somebody to help shovel it
I am sorry the Grey Colt has had the horse ail but he will probably get over it when warm weather comes if he has it very bad perhaps he had better be rowelled in the breast this spring, to prevent any thing like disorder or consumption from settling on his lungs. I want to give him a good chance to grow this summer
The barn I know is in a very bad fix, I hardly know what can be done with it. It wants new boarding & new shingling I dont know as it can be patched to do any good but I shall probably be at home before it will be necessary to do any thing to it but perhaps you may have to wash & shear the sheep before I get there if you do you will have to get somebody to help about it. You will do well if you do not use up

more in hireing help &c. than I can here
We have just got our shed raised except the roof,
a building 84 feet long & 30 wide posts 20 feet long
& set into the ground 4 feet to prevent it from blowing
over as it is not to be boarded up at the sides
The trees are all leaved out the cherries are as large
as small peas the Peaches are about as large as
the little end of a Ladies little finger, the grass on the
Prairie is 4 or 5 inches high though in some places
it is fed down some by the cattle & horses, mules
sheep & hogs of which there are hundreds of each kind
The expense of keeping a colt through the winter here
is not so much as a sheep in Nile every body turns
their stock all except what they work, right out on
to the Prairie no expense or trouble about pasturing
any amount only when they any of it they get on
to a horse and ride after it & race them till they
drive them up, Saturday afternoons in pleasent
weather the Prairie is most full of Ladies & Gents
generally on horseback sometimes in a two horse buggie
or a two horse lumber wagon & some on foot they take
that time more than any other to visit & ride about & go
to the store &c & then the new buildings in process
of erection at the Station attracts the natives some
some of the Ladies are very good horsemen as well as
the men in fact on horseback is the most general way
of getting about for both sexes & practice makes good riders
There is a new Loco Motive Engine brought up the big
muddy to run on this Div. so that there will be two
engines running here I suppose they expect to carry
the iron for the third Div over this Div from Muddy

I am glad to hear that Mrs Sargent is getting better I hope she will get so that she can sit up soon. I like your writing letters better than I do myself

Sister Mother I am very glad to receive a part of each letter from you but there is no need of my answering each seperately

You enquire about S Conant I dont know hardly what to say about him he is somewhat inclined to keep his business to himself I guess I have not made any particular enquiries of him I should he was not one that can take crosses & ill luck or misfortune so easy as some is perhaps a little - inclined to be fretted if things do not go to suit him he feels that he is wronged some by the settlement though he has not said much about it to me nor I to him he said that Uncle Josephs death made a great difference with his Fathers settlement of his property, he seems to partake a little of the common prejudice against the ~~foreign~~ classes of society & likewise against ministers he does not say much & I have had no talk with him particularly but I should think he was inclined to the doctrine of Unitarianism He said his son Ben wanted him to sell his farm & move to Boston, & I guess his wife & family are inclined to. he said he thought he should sell his farm & did not know but he might move out west in 4 or 5 years he seems to like this country pretty well. he begins to feel in a hurry about going again. I dont know how much longer he will stay Folks some & going in a week or two;

I have moved my trunk over to New Dedham Station but I shall have to come over here about every week after your letters if I get them & I hope I shall not have to come for nothing many times Yours &c

C. W. Rich

New Du Quoin May 14th 54.

Dear Albina

I will write you a little piece of a letter to day though I suppose that my last one which I wrote last sabbath has not got more than to Mt Hawkins (10 miles from Du Quoin) & I have not yet received any from you since the day that Isaac started for the East (the 5th of May). Samuel has gone over to Du Quoin after the mail but it is so wet walking that I thought I would not go over to day. There has been a great rain since last Friday it rained all night Friday, night with thunder & lightning like a shower & all day Saturday which filled the Creeks & Branches as the people here call the little brooks so that they were all "swimming", yesterday the water was 5 or 6 inches deep almost all over the Prairie to day it is considerably drained off but still there is considerable in the low places so that it would soak a persons boots well to walk 3 or 4 miles through the Prairie. There is such an extent of level country & but few Creeks & Branches that every little rain fills them up & the country is so flat & level the water does not run in the Creeks so rapidly as among our Eastern hills so that a great rain spreads over the banks & covers the "Bottoms".

Sarah & the Children are well. Charlie has been complaining for the last week or two with a little fever but is better to day & I don't know what else ails him.

Mr Mc Elvain (where I board) & his wife have just got onto their horses and gone to visit their, (his) brother, & left the Old Lady (her mother) to get dinner. we have quite a good boarding place very comfortable quarters & pretty good living, very good for this country Meat & coffee 3 times a day, corn bread twice & wheat Flour biscuits once a day & generally coffee or Peach sauce & Butter frequently eggs and rice and sometimes Pudding & occasionally beans, stewed, We have been boarding here ever since the eighth of Feb. I reckon, it is the best place to board that there is in the Prairie but it is a ¼ mile from our work and rather wet walking in wet weather They have not yet the boarding house (which we built) plastered yet on account of the difficulty of getting lime, they have to haul it 40 miles from Chester but I expect it will be plastered before many weeks It is beautifully pleasant this morning with the pure fresh air & cool enough to make a fire feel comfortable this morning but now (¼ past 10 A.M.) it is comfortable out door in the sun, we have not had but little weather here yet that was uncomfortably warm & people have not yet done planting People here usually plant corn here any time from the first of April till the first of June & raise good corn though that which is planted early is sometimes injured by wet weather, such a rain as this will stop the corn planting for nearly a week it makes the ground so soft that they can hardly go over it

Samuel has just got back & brought some
news papers but no letters so I shall have to
wait another week before I hear from home
It is just one month since the date of your
last letter so I don't know any thing about
you now, all I know is a very little a month
ago If the spring is so late there as that the snow
was 2 or 3 feet deep the 14th of April it must hurry the
Spring work into a shorter time than usual
when the snow does go off
It is of no use for me to write any thing about
the spring work as I suppose Walter Ruder is there
& he can see to every thing as well a I can
It is now the 14th of May & it will probably be near
the last of May before you get this, & I suppose
that Isaac will not get back much before the first
of June, and after Isaac gets back I shall write
you when you may begin to expect I shall stint
you wrote in your last that you had not got
over your complaint in your Stomach yet
why don't you do something in earnest for it
go to the Doct if you can't get rid of it without
I think that you would do well to go to work
thourough & take Thoroughwort & Cherry tree bark
& Dandylion root, life of Man &c & do it in earnest
it is of no use to keep dallying along with a
Disease about it, you can by a little perseverance
get rid of it, & if you can't do it your self go to the Doc
though I don't believe in going to the Doct every time a person

I should probably send this to you in the 1st of June & as I have no stamps
here I will let it go empty. I suppose you will get this & the one that
I sent last week at the same time.

feels a little unwell but if one has a complaint
that hangs on for years & that "without cause"
that you can discover I think then it is best to
get the advice of somebody that knows something
about it, I think that as a general thing you
have been confined too closely to the house, not that
I think it would be more healthy for you to run
as fast as you can up to Mrs Sargents & sit a while
in their hot close room & then run home again
but you ought to take moderate out door exercise
every morning & frequent out door air all day
& the children too though I suppose there is no trouble
but that the children will be out doors enough
I think that this climate agrees with Sami pretty
well he has gained 15 lbs since he came from home
he weighed 94 lbs, I weighed yesterday 152 so I think
I have not got very sick yet
The Prairie now that the green grass has got up
above the dry & covered with hundred of cattle &
horses & sheep & hogs &c, looks very fine but still
the grass is rather thin it does not afford near
as much feed to the acre as northern good pastures
& I suppose that the hot dry weather in summer
will crisp it up before fall though where there is
so large a range that the cattle can't eat it down the
bottoms keep green till almost winter
I should like to hear from Isaac & Antoinette I suppose likely
as not they are at Elyria to day

Yours C. W. Rich

Du Quoin May 21st 1854

My Dear Wife

I have just came in from the Station & found a letter from you dated Apr 30th to May 3d & likewise one from Mary & Harriet. I am very glad to hear that you are all well & getting along well I have not heard from you before since the 5th of May I had a letter dated the 11th of April The great freshet which you have this spring I suppose will carry off almost all the fence from the Intervale & make work for Walter, but he must hire some labour if he needs, to do what work he thinks best to do I expected that you would be short of hay, having those Oxen there so long & boys too to tend the stock but you will be lucky if you can get what you need at the barn without going away for it, but by using provender you can get along with a great little hay With regard to "Groceries" if you are likely to get out before I come home, as I suppose that we have nothing to turn off to buy with & shall have to pay money, you may as well send a bill of what you want to Lind & let him furnish you by the next steamboat & I will pay him the money when I come home I suppose that he will furnish us with a better article than we should be likely to get as to put a heat by letting him put up a supply for the summer at once, it will be less trouble for him & for you in sending with regard to a carpet for the east chamber if you think best you can send to Bangor for what you want

but I suppose you would not have time to get all
those fixings come up before Mr DeWitt & wife will
be there, but if you can possibly you had better, but Mr
DeWitte is a kind of a reasonable man & can probably
put up with some inconveniences, though he is in the
habit of having every thing at home in the very nicest
order. though I should like very much to have been at
home & fixed up things some but as I cannot do that some
you will, perhaps have a reasonable excuse I regret that
I could not be at home when they come for I really like
Mr DeWitt, as far as I have seen him very much
As for moving away from Milo I have not made any
calculations about that, though I should not hesitate
to sell the farm at any time if a favorable opportunity
occured I suppose likely that Mather has gone to
Bangor before this time though your letter did not say
any thing about it but I concluded that she would
probably go [illegible]e after Walter Rider & his wife came &
I rather expect that she will see Isaac in Bangor to day.
The bell rings for meeting I dont know who preaches as
I suppose Mr Bird has gone away but I believe I will go & see
I have just got back from meeting there was no
preaching but Dea Sprague read a very good sermon
from the National Preacher. There are quite a number
of People, in & around Dexter, originally from the East
who are very good sort of folks. & very different from
the Dexterites generally & although the Dexterites have
a kind of Prejudice against them & affect to dispise
them still I believe they really respect them
still there are some Yankey Devils here as well
as every where else

It is a beautifuly pleasant weather to day not very warm the Themometer at 72° in Isaac's Office there has been but few days so warm as to be very uncomfortable working out in the sun, my business has been out of doors all the time since I have been here so I stand a chance of getting well tanned up
The rain last week rose the Big Muddy River about 30 feet, what few streams there are about here drain large tracts of country compared to what they do at the East, the small streams there being nearer together here a little small stream with usually not as much water in it as runs in that little brook in the Webfield will be filled up with one days rain so that a horse can not pass it without swimming there are hardly any springs about here, I never have seen one yet, & as soon as the rain runs off the small streams are soon quite dry. I suspect that most of the people about here have to depend upon their wells & cisterns for the water for their cattle in the dry weather. There has been 3 or 4 unusually heavy rains here this spring so that it has put people back about their corn planting so that the People have not got more than half done yet and some that have planted will have to plant over again, though I see some fields coming up, they can generally plant any time in April or May The man where I board has fenced in and is breaking up to plant with corn 10 acres of New Prairie ground besides what he had under cultivation before it is not much of a job to break it they only plough 2 or 3 or 4 inches deep & with one pair of horses

I understand by Mary's letter that Mr Follett has sold his farm & bought Mrs Whidden farm & think our neighbourhood has made a very good exchange this time, & likewise that your Father came within 200, of selling his property there. I wish he & I too could sell out, so that it would do, & all go away from that bad place though there is no knowing but that we might light in another just as bad

You have been telling in one or two letters that you would write this time, as if you would not write only this time, for fear I should not get it before I started for home, but you need not be concerned about that for I'll give you timely warning of my coming so that you wont loose your paper

& soon as Isaac comes back I shall write to you when to begin to look for me

I reckon I should like to see you some till Charlie did not to forget his book now the warm weather has come & he can go out work or play & Josie to learn his letters before I come home if he can & Mary that Father want to see little Sis very much

Your Affectionate

Charles

1854

Mr. Isaac Dutton June 4th

Dear Sir - The last letter I had from you I received two weeks ago and that was date of the 31st of May. So I have no news from home within one month of this time. Isaac has been gone 4 weeks & I am expecting him back every day but still should not be surprised if he does not come for a week yet. I have not heard directly from him since he went away. I expected he would have written. I had a letter from Ann yesterday dated Cohoes May 19th. She wrote that Isaac arrived there just one week previous, & left the monday evening following, & that Antoinette & the Baby stood the journey well. Ann writes that they shall defer their journey to Maine untill the last of June or the first week in July on account of their children having the measels one of them was sick with them & the other would be so it is possible that I may be at home before they arrive at Maine.

I went last Sabbath to see a great Sucker meeting of the Seventh Day Missionary Baptists. An annual meeting, & washing of feet be there. There were a great many people there mostly horseback, many with two horse lumber wagons with 8 or 10 chairs set into the wagon, & carry the whole family & so they have

* Ann writes that Isaac got the stone all right & it is the admiration of all who see it. They were one day & a half on the road from Albany to Cohoes. Ann did not expect me home till the 4th of June

C. H. R.

their chairs to sit in at meeting.
The meeting at the Camp Meeting ground which is a little into the timber & near a small meeting house which is used ordinarily by that society The woods (or rather the "Timber" they call it here) for near half a mile round was full of horses hitched to every tree & I should think that at least ¼ part had Side-saddles the Quaker Gents are great horse-men, ie good riders & I should think that about ⅓ of the ladies had Babies, there seemed to but few grown up young Ladies they are married & become Mothers about as soon as grown I saw some women riding horse-back & carrying a child in their arms
There is a meeting to day over in a school-house one or two miles away, Campbellite Baptist I believe, but I dont care much to go I heard them one a few evenings ago at the new boarding house which is as much as I care about they are very much like the Ormsville Preachers
The people about here have not all done planting yet some have had to plant their corn over two or three times on account of great rains I dont think we have so frequent rains here or so many rainy days but when it does rain I think it usually rains faster sometimes just a shower will fill up the creeks & make them impassable for a short time but they fall quick after it stops raining

It is very comfortable sitting here in the house but it was rather warm some of the time last week our work was shingleing & some of the time the sun shone on the bright shingles rather powerfully but many hands make light work & we have had about a dozen men at it for 3 or 4 days & we shall soon have it done, the shingles did not come till last Monday & we had almost run out of work, for not having the roofs covered. I have 18 different men on my list for May and as many for June but not usually more than from 10 to 14 at a time. There is an old Peacock strutting around in the door yard here with his tail, looking if it was full of eyes, spread out about 6 feet wide & nearly 4 feet high, he goes strutting around with his beautiful bright, green & blue neck & breast with a small head & thats all they are quite plenty about here

Why being out in the hot sun all the week makes me feel somewhat tired & sleepy come to sit down in the house I write a little & then yawn & stretch, & write a little more but I shall give it up soon

I should like to know some th

One O'clock P.M. I have just got dinner. Corn-bread Pork & coffee with apple sauce butter & molasses (We have Pork & Coffee three times a day, corn-bread twice, & wheat flour biscuit once [illegible] morning, we sometimes have boiled rice, sometimes beans or bread & Egg pudding, but always Pork or bacon but never Potatoes there is but few potatoes raised about here they don't [illegible] well the bugs destroy them late, One other dish invariably for the family that is sour milk or Butter-milk. they drink it down by the quart thick with bonnelabbe it seems as if they would rob the hogs but they have yet to raise & no cotton to keep milk in & so I suppose they have some left for the hogs

They have a little log shed in one one is a smoke room about 8 feet square where they keep their meat & in the other a milk room about the same size it is about 3 rods from the house & every time they get a meal of victuals the woman has to out to the smoke house for the meat & to the milk room for her butter apple sauce &c &c sometimes in the rain & mud but that is the custom of the country & the Suckers dont know any better way They are & have every thing they want he has as much as 3 000, dollars worth of stock & money at interest he came home from California last fall with a pocket full

Du Quoin June 11th 1854

Dear Albina

Isaac got back last Thursday at noon & brought me a letter from home & not only that but I had a chance to hear directly It seems from his account that the season is unusually backward there as well as here but he says you are getting along nicely & can do well without me & I had better not be in a hurry about going home but I begin to feel as if I wanted to be at home, though I dont suppose there is any particular necessity of my being there untill about hay time which I suppose will not commence before about the middle of July I believe I shall try to stand it two or three weeks longer perhaps I may start the first week in July, possibly the last week in June but most probably the forepart of July I shall write again before I determine exactly when I shall start, Isaac came from Bangor to St Louis between Monday noon and Saturday night & stoped 24 hours in New York & saw the Crystal Pallace, and 12 hours at Buffalo & went to Niagara Falls I think I shall come home through New York & perhaps I may come by the way of Niagara Falls too, Samuel Coriant is here yet has been talking of going home for three & four weeks but I reckon he dreds to start alone, there is some cholera on the River & at

St Louis & he is some afraid of it the bell rings for meting & I guess I will go though I think likely there will not be any preaching for Mr Bird has gone away
5 minutes to 12 Oclock AM. I have just got back to Isaacs Office from meeting there was no Preachy Isaac read a sermon he seems rather lonesome to day his wife & child away to maine & he out here alone he will realize now how good it is to receive letter from his wife & the summer will seem long to him I suppose
The cherrys begin to turn red some they will be ripe in a week or two the Peaches will begin to be ripe in August but corn in some places is but just up but ~~in other places~~ I understand that down in the timber land farms it is a foot or two high The Timber lands are dryer & more forward than the Prairie but the corn does not grow so large in the latter part of the season but the Timber lands produce the best wheat, Isaac says the wheat crop between here & St Louis is most ready to harvest
Flour is very high here & wheat scarce over 1,00. a bushell & Flour 7 or 8 dolls a barrell, but there is but little used just about here but it will be lower after wheat harvest, corn has been only ,25 cts a bushel here & I dont know that it is any more than that now Pork 4 or 5 cts & most things in the provision line is not high but I have had to pay 2,62 cts a week for board not including washing but it will be a little less now as

have got the boarding house all finished plastered & painted and a family moved in & we are going there to board tomorrow have been boarding more than ½ mile from work It is quite comfortable here in Isaacs office the themometer stands at 72 degrees last week has been very cool one or two nights & mornings the fire really felt good it was so cold one night when we came in from work that Mr McElvaine built up a good fire for us but there have been some days quite warm but I do not see as there there is much difference in the weather yet, except that this is a month earlier here than in Maine but I suppose along in August & Sept when the grass begins to be dried up & the ground is all parched up & dried one or two feet deep as they say it is sometimes that it would be more uncomfortably warm, it has been remarkably cool here yet for the season I came away from the Station this morning & left my spectacles in my other pocket so I have to write with my eyes & I cant see quite as well I have got in such a habit of using glasses I understood by Isaac that Charlie & Josie were engaged in building bridges but I hope that they dont forget to read every day
I borrowed a horse to ride over to Du Quoin this morning & I must take him back again before night so I cant stop to write any more as I suppose dinner is about ready
Yours Affectionate Brother E M^r Rich

Du Quoin Station June 18th 1854

Dear Albina will have I am yet comfortable
ensconced in our new boarding house which we
built ourselves with an eastern man to keep it &
he sets a table & lives like eastern people
I have a chamber 12 feet square with two windows all
to myself one Samuel lodges with me, he has now gone
to Du Quoin to get the letter & some of his things
& I am here in my room, (which by the way) has a good
bed, curtained winnows, a carpeted floor & a wash-stand
& for a writing table I use a large thing I lay on the
wash-stand or on my knee & though it is not quite so
convenient as Isaacs writing desk still I can manage
to write some to you though perhaps you will not get
quite so long a letter as you would if I had a more convenient
writing desk. The weather is pretty warm to day we have
had a number of pretty warm days though most of the
time it has been quite comfortable it is to day about
like our July weather the sun beat down with more
power here though I think the heat of this climate
is more occasioned by the long continued dry weather
than by the intensity of heat of the sun & though there
may be as much or more rain in the course of the year
still there is much less wet weather & not near as
many rainy days there has been unusually heavy rains
here this spring which put people back about planting

their corn some had to plant 2 or 3 times over & some are planting yet but I suppose with the intention of cutting it green for cattle people depend more upon corn & consequently to winter their stock than upon hay. The Prairie looks very pretty from here covered with grass about knee high although there is hundreds of cattle & horses grazing on it all the time, but the grass is not of very good quality & there are a great many large coarse weeds & people dont think it worth mowing, in fact many dont make any calculation upon hay at all We are getting along some with the buildings, here 12 or 14 carpenters ought to make some show in a week or a month even if the buildings are large,

Mr. Mason the Chief Engineer was along up the line this last week I went with his waggon to carry him along up the line from the end of the Track on this Div to the next Div. & he has not got back yet. The Track layers have not been at work on this Div for a month past for the want of Iron the Mississippi has been so low most of the time this spring that they could not get up much Iron, the spring freshets on the Missouri & the upper Mississippi & their branches generally make high water & good boating up Muddy river all the spring till June or July but there has not been much of a freshet on the Mississippi this spring yet. The back water from the Mississippi sometimes raises the Big Muddy 30 feet at the place where the rail road crosses it although it is 40 miles from where it emties into the Mississippi which shows how level the country is

I have not determined yet exactly when I shall start for home probably not till the first week in July. I suppose that haying will not come on before the middle of the month if as soon as that & I dont know as I can be of much use there till hay time. Samuell Conant has not gone yet he has been talking about going ever since the first of May & now he has concluded to stop another week. I believe he is almost afraid to start alone he is a good deal afraid of the Cholera. There has been considerable of it at St Louis & on the river. I wonder he ever has pluck enough to get so far from home as this but his wife has a brother in Ohio & he came there first. Sanford has just back from St. Dubuque but brought me no letter. I was in hopes to have had a letter to day but I suppose I have got to try to content myself another week. I suppose that I had better finish up my writing for now for I have got Mr Smith with me I suppose he wants to write some to day

I have just written to Anna & Elysia I dont know but she will have gone East before this letter gets to her & no matter if she does

I believe I wrote to you last week that they would probably go east the last of June or first of July

My love to all your children & my respects to the rest of your household

Your affectionate Charles

Clear Lake Station June 25th 84

My Dear Nie. I have sent to Mr Smith's the first letter for my letter which I expect to receive from you by return mail & if he does not find one I shall have the same disappointment for to Day that I had last Sabbath only a little more so. It has been so long since I have heard from you that I dont what to write but still I have a kind an inclination to scribble at you if I have much to say to you. I suppose that before this reaches you Mr & Mrs Witt & family will have been there & made a visit I wish I could have been at home, but I thought not best to go quite so soon I think now that I shall start sometime in the course of next week & shall probably be at home sometime from the 1st to the middle of July, in season to help get the hay

The sun is growing rather warm here but my work is now pretty under cover so that I get along quite comfortably I am sitting in my chamber (a room 12 feet square in the south east corner of the house) with two windows open but I have to keep the curtains down to keep the sun out, so that the air dont come in much & it is so warm that it makes me sweat to write & hold my head, (which I fix instead of the shingle that I had last week,) on my hand or lean up against the wall. Now I dont know how warm it is as we have no thermometer here but I think from the feeling of it that the warm weather was just coming on we have not as yet had much very warm weather not very different from the

weather with us except that it is about a month in advance of us & I suppose the cold weather with us is about the same in advance of this place—so that we have about two months more cold weather in Maine & that very cold & here they have two months more hot weather than

12 o'clock

One o'clock P.M. Mr Smith has just returned from the Post Office in Chamberlain and brought me a letter from Mother dated June 9th & 10th by which I perceive that you had just received one from me dated May 21st you have probably got two or three more before this time. I dont know whether you will get any more after this before I get home or not I see by Mothers letter that I am to expect to be in Boston the fourth & at Mill the second week in July I dont know but I shall try to be at home in the course of the second week of July but the worst part of the journey is between here & St Louis if I can be lucky enough to find a team going to St Louis about the time ~~which~~ I conclude to start it would be convenient for me otherwise I should have to go 10 miles to take the stage in about one year more when this rail road is completed the journey from Bangor here will be almost nothing

I think it would be well to hire George Hockkins or somebody through haying & perhaps through harvesting for I have been away from farming so long that perhaps I shall not feel like taking hold of work very much at any rate I expect it will come rather tough at first. I could get along pretty well with it if I had a Doz or 15 men to Boss

It seems that it is difficult for Charlie to get his mind fixed on to his book but perhaps after he has got so that he can read when he gets older he can learn better but I expect that Book learnin will always be hard for him to get & he will require the most patience, perseverance & judgment & discretion to beat it into him without making it too irksome he learn some things so I dont think he is a fool & perhaps he will take a start by & by make considerable of a ~~scholar~~ I would let him short lessons so that he wont get tired of them but frequent so that he wont forget them & perhaps it would be well to unite it with some pleasing association or amusement

I meant to have written in my last letter that I thought it might be a good plan to rowel the gray colt in the breast perhaps it might have a tendency to remove any affection of the lungs if the horse-ail should ~~have~~ affected them any Cherries are ripe we have frequently had cherry sauce or cherry pie on the Table but I dont get time to go & pick any I dont know but the birds have got them most all by this time Peaches they say will begin to get ripe in a month

Tell Charlie that he must have Patience & perseverence & he will learn and be a good scholar after a while & Josie he must set on & learn his letters before I get home & I dont know what little many must do without it is to learn to be a pleasent little good natured girl

Your Affectionate C. H. Nick

July 2nd 85.

New Dupuoin Station

Dear Wife I believe I wrote you last week that I should probably be at home sometime from the 10 to 15 of July but I have pretty much concluded to stop longer, they say that the Peaches will begin to get ripe in about a month or 6 weeks & then again it is not every day that a chap like me, can get to run a crew of 10 or a doz carpenters, so I have concluded while I have the chance to keep it, If I come home now it will take nearly all that I have earned to pay my expenses out & back & other expenses accruing in consequence of my coming, paying for labor &c so that I should not have much left to pay for my time after getting home, although I should not be sorry I came out here if I did not save any thing for I think the climate has been a benefit to my health, But I think you, by hireing about 50 dolls worth of labor, (which would be as much as I should be likely to earn if I came home) can get along about as well without me as with me this summer & I by staying here if I have my health can earn considerable more than I can there, & it seems, that in the situation that I am in (myself growing old and a young family coming on) that I ought to improve such an opportunity as this, get something to pay my debts, & to provide means for educating my children, I had made my calculations

ever since I come from home if things proved favorable & you could get along comfortable to stop till about harvest time & I have stood it pretty well till now, but it comes rather tough to make up my mind to stop 4 or 5 months longer but if I stop any longer I had probably better if I my health continues good keep right on till I can get through with the Major as long as he wants me. It seems as if I ought not to be so babyish, or so weak-minded that I can't stay from home a few months if I think it best I have quite a comfortable place to work in, we have got the Passenger house & the Freight pretty much finished outside, the Freight house has six large doors eight feet high & 7 wide & 4, 10 light windows all open & the building is long 40 by 60 with 4 feet progection of the roof all round & the lower floor 6 ft from the ground & situated in the open Prairie so that if there is any air at all stirring we get some of it & though the thermometer has been up to 90 degrees almost every day for a fortnight still I have not felt the heat very bad, but it is rather warm for those that work out in the sun we went off eight hands last week up to the next station to framing another set of building similar to these & they have rather a warm time & there is only nine of us left here & we are making the windows doors &c for that station here we have got a room 12 ft square & 10 ft high finished off plastered & painted for an Office room & Isaac has moved his safe, desk &c over there & taken up his residence at the new town of Des Moines but the Post Office is not moved yet but probably will the latter end of next week, or this will be the first of January

I don't know but I ought to have let you know sooner
so that you might engage help in hay-2
if I was not coming home now, but I did not think of staying
longer till within 3 or 4 days. Walter will need to hire
George Hankins or some other good stout boy through the
season & a good stout man through haying season. I
suppose you will have to pay pretty high wages
probably you will have means enough from the wool &c to
pay for all the labor &c which you will need to have but if
you think not best to sell the wool so soon or want any
more I can send you some, I want Walter to take care of
and manage all the farming operations just as if they were
his own with regard to Farmer Crew I want to have the
privilege of buying or taking them as I choose, & Walter
can do as he thinks best, I don't think best to winter
them next winter at any rate, but I should think best
to winter the steers & colts & sheep if hay is not very
high, I don't know hardly what you can do with the
barn I don't suppose that it can be patched to stop the
leaks in the roof very well but perhaps you will
have to let it go till after haying & then get some
boards & put over the hay wherever the bad leaks are
to turn the water off or nail them up on the under
side of the rafters so as to protect the hay from damage
I intend as soon as I can attend to it and get the means
to double beam all round the walls & new shingle the
roof & fix off the inside & put it in better shape
I made a kind of an attempt at an experiment last season
at plowing in the sod of some of my thin grass (when
the land has been rested to death, & then not seeded down)
and sow down plentifully with grass seed without any
other crop, but it was so late & season so bad that I
suppose that it won't not do much & maybe will have to be

plowed & seeded again, I have been very neglectful for three or four years in not putting clayseed enough on my ground I dont think it worth while to try to make much at raising crops to sell (except hay) but instead of plowing & sowing oats, as I have done to plow & seed right down to grass & not cultivate any more than we can thoroughly manure

That piece of wet swirl ground that I plowed last fall I want to get smoothed down & sow well with grass & the water drained off as soon as I can conveniently & I think it would been decent grass but Walter can manage all those things as he thinks best

If you cannot conveniently get help to cut all the grass it will not be much matter if some of the poorest of it goes without I dont think it hardly worth while to let much to cut to the feathers for I had about as lief let it go to seed and drop into the ground, or plow in as to cut at the haives, where the ground is smooth & free from stone the cost of getting hay is so little that if half of it is not worth more than the cost of getting there will be so little that it will not amount much to any way and of not much consequence if it is not cut at all

I want Walter to stay ~~& coach~~ take care & work what he is able to for a year or till I get back certain & I will pay him wages satisfactory & perhaps another year I may sell or let the farm to him if he wants it

he must be careful & not work too hard some time when labor is necessary to get along, I suppose that the freshet carried off the fence from the Intervale so that Field lays common with Webbs & will probably remain so till after haying if not the whole season but it will be inconvenient not to have it up before they turn cattle in in the fall, I believe I have got my sheet about full so I will have to stop writing & say good by to you C H Rice

1854.

New Dubuque Station July 9th

Dear Albina I get no letter to day & I expected none for I suppose that you are looking for me home now every day & will be till next Friday or Monday when you probably get my letter that I wrote last week (the 2nd) and will be somewhat disappointed on account of my not coming home, but probably by the time that you receive this, you will have got pretty well reconciled to my being gone longer & perhaps will conclude that you can get along about as well without me as with me. & I Dont know but the children will forget that they ever had a Father almost

I shall probably have no letter from you for about three weeks yet to come for it will take about a fortnight after you get my letter of last week, before I shall receive one from you, I am sorry I could not have let you know one or two weeks sooner that I was not coming home now so that you might have had a better chance to engage help in haying Isaac had a letter from mother yesterday & one from Antonette which I read & it was a very good letter "no doubt" as good as you can write but still I had rather have a letter from you it "sooter" suits me as well"

I am afraid Walter will be troubled about getting good help in haying but perhaps he can find a good man up in Brownville or somewhere & I hope you have George Hockins or some other good boy there all the season, Walter must be

careful & not work too hard & not worry about the work if you cannot make out to get help enough early you can save some for seed & hire in days work along the last of haying & get it along in the end without much loss, I am sorry the barn is so leaky & bad, but the hay will not take much damage before the heavy fall rains & after haying it can be secured by putting boards up on the inside over the hay Walter must hire what help he needs and get along as he can best be sure not work too hard he can get along with it as well as I could if I were there probably I have not made any calculation yet how long I shall stop here likely enough, all summer if my health remains good & you need not be afraid to write for fear that I shall be gone before your letters reach here for, as I told you before I shall give you notice of my leaving so that you will not be in danger of loosing many letters by ~~sending~~ them after I have left. I don't know whether you will "coincide" with me in the opinion that I had better remain here this summer but it seems to me that it is an opportunity that I ought to improve to help my self & family a little & though it seems hard to be away from home so long still it is no more than many others do & live through it & it is a chance that does not come every day for such as me and though it is not any very great wages still as I am here and shall not probably need to be at much extra expense for staying a few months longer what I can make more than to pay for the hired labor at home seems to be so much gained

The weather is quite cool & comfortable to day the thermometer stands at about 76d it is cloudy & looks like rain it has been quite warm & dry for three or four weeks a few little showers hardly enough to wet the ground, the thermometer for 3 or 4 weeks past has ranged most of the time at about 88 to 92 seldon below 80 in the night This fore-noon Isaac & I harnessed the horses to his buggy-wagon & rode over to the west side of the Prairie to Mr. Heagly's Meeting-house (the same place where I wrote you that I went to Meeting at the great annual meeting feet-washing &c) but there was no meeting to day & we stoped on our way back & picked as many black-berrys as we wanted to eat & got back little after noon The corn has grown, astonishingly 2" for the past 4 or 5 weeks, since I was out that way before, when Isaac was at the east, it was very backward on account of the wet spring, some of it not planted till June, now the early planted is higher than my head & just beginning to tassel out the ears frequently grow as high or higher than I can reach, so that it takes tall men together it It is just about wheat harvest here, now, or rather it is about all harvested about here but there is not a great deal sowed just about here but considerable in other parts of the State, Samuel Covant is here yet he has been thinking of going this 5 or 6 weeks but I guess waited for me. I guess he is afraid to start on account of the Cholera he said the other day that he would give 100, dollars if he was safe at home. I told him that it would not cost half that to get him there. I rather think he will not dare to start alone yet a while & I think

as his 2nd boy who is about 18 or 19 years old, is at home to see to his farm that he will do well to stay a while longer as he can earn considerable more than he will have to pay for labor at home the expense of getting out here & returning would make quite a-hole in the "pile" that he would make in 3 or 4 months but for a longer time the proportion would not be so large

It is a little tough to make up my mind to stop longer when I had calculated upon going home about this time I kinder want to see you & the children too. some but I think I had better stop a while longer I see Ivy been writing to Netty to day & he now has sombody to write to as well as I but he being more used to writing can make shorter work of it than I can Do write particularly all about every thing & remember that I am, away down in Egypt

From Your Own — Charley

Thursday Eve. 8 o'clock

New Du Quoin Station July 13th 64

Dear Albina, I have been reading newspapers about half an hour since I quit work & now seeing the Office is so handy I will just begin a letter to you Isaac has gone up to Centralia at the Junction & the upper end of his Div. will not be back till Saturday & I thought to have the Office all to myself this evening but since I set down to write Mr Mitchell has come back from little Muddy & has gone to the boarding-house to get his supper It has quite comfortably cool for 3 or 4 days past the thermometer standing at about 80 most of the time but it got up to 88° to day, but the Freight house is so large & high & so many doors & windows to let in the air that it is quite comfortable working when the thermometer is up to 90° or 92°

Perhaps you would like to know what I am thinking about while about my work, — well now & then I think about my business but I am considerable often making calculations about which of my letters you received last & when I shall get another &c — I calculate that you got my letter of about the last of June (wherein I wrote that I should probably be at home about the 10 to 15th of July) about Friday the 7th or Monday the 10th of July & are therefore confidently expecting me home to-morrow night & how disappointed you will be when the stage comes up to-morrow & you get my letter instead of me, but I suppose likely that Mrs & Mrs Jewett with

the young Misses DeWitts are there now or perhaps up to Brownville & likely enough some of the Bangor friends with them; and how do you like them isn't he just the man for Anna, & isn't she just as happy as a "Clam at high water" They have got a beautiful situation there in Gilyria & it is a very pretty flourishing village with a pretty name & I guess pretty good society. It has got to be nine Oclock & so I suppose I had better go up to the house for it will soon be bed time & I suppose likely you are in bed & perhaps asleep by this time for the time here is about one hour & ¼ later here than at Milo perhaps a little more than that so that when it is noon here it is ~~¼ or ½~~ 15 or 20 minuts past one Oclock there

Friday Eve. July 12th. 8 Oclock & 5 minuts I suppose likely that you have got my letter of the 2nd of July by this time if not you will probably get next Monday & how do you like the idea of my staying all summer? perhaps you will think that I ought to have come home & ~~but~~ wanted to enough but still I thought that I had better stay. Walter can get along with the haying by hiring help enough if he can get & I guess he can at some price & what he can't get help to cut early he can let go to seed or get help along towards the last of haying & perhaps get along just as well as if I was there I suppose likely that you have set your mind upon my getting home by this time, so long, that it will be about as hard for you to reconcile yourself to my staying longer as it is for me. Though you have the children there with you & I am alone

I guess Mr De Witt & Family will go back to Bangor to morrow if they have not already gone and perhaps Mother with them, (I guess Antoinette went up to Milo with them & perhaps Lucy) & will probably be on their return home some time next week I suppose you will feel more lonesome than ever after they have all gone though you will be more comfortable than you was last winter but you must remember that you are not the only woman whose husband is gone away, after Lucre, & keep good courage. It is nine Oclock & I will go to the house. I have not heard from you for so long time that I dont seem to have any thing to write but nonsense & I suppose it will be a fortnight yet before I shall have a letter Saturday 12½ Oclock I have just got back from having a ride I have been up with some lumber for the Boarding house to the next station (Tamarac) Doors Window frames casings & every thing all prepared to finished off the house Out side & inside we have been preparing here to have it ready when the got the frame up & we are doing most all of the work of finishing the next buildings here fixing it ready to put up because we can do it here to better advantage & take it right on to the cars & carry it up any time when they get the buildings framed the hour for dinner is about past & the hands have come back to work & I'll stop writing for now & finish my letter tomorrow

Sunday 16th 2 oclock P.M. Isaac & I have been over to (Old) Du Quoine to meeting but there was no preaching the Minister Mr Bird has not got back yet is out on a tour for the collection of funds to start a female Seminary in Du Quoin

I suppose likely that Dr DeWitt & family left Mil
yesterday for Bangor & you are probably at this time
writing to me unless you went to meeting if so you are
probably stopping at your Father's a little while after meeting
& perhaps talking about my staying here so long.
your Mother & the girls will wonder I can content
myself to stay so long but your Father thinks that it is better
seeing I am here to stay a while longer, & so do I
It is a good while since I have had a letter from you but
I suppose I suppose I shall not get one till a fortnight from
yesterday I do want to hear from you & how you get
along with the haying seems "like I had not heard from
you for a long time, I believe about the time that the
snow went off was the last time you wrote to me, though
I had a letter from Mother since
I suppose Charlie & Josie will be some disappointed at not
seeing Father, as well as you but probably I want
to see you all as much as you all do me
I dont seem to have much to write for it is so long
since I have heard from you that I don't know how you are
but there is so many things then that I want that I
want to hear about that it seems that you might fill
one sheet each week if you can get time to write it
I see come to look over my letter that I have made
some mistakes & some repetitions writing it at two
or three different times I had forgotten what I had written
so I guess I had better stop

Yours

C. W. Rich

Du Quoine Station Tues. July 18th 54

Dear Wife Isaac has gone down to Big Muddy to day went down on a hand car & dont come back to night & I have the Freight house & Office all to myself it is now half past eight O'clock & I have plenty of news papers but I thought to scribble a few words to you though I cant know as I have much of any thing in particular to write now

The thermometer has stood at 96° most all day yesterday & to day and is 90. now I have just been taking a wash I draw up a pail of water & let it set in the sun 3 or 4 hours & then when the rest have gone & I have the Freight-house to myself I can wash me at my leisure but going into the water in this country is out of the question especially this time of the year for the large streams have no water hardly & what there is so stagnant as to have a scum on it & the small streams are entirely dry A little Hydropathy when the weather is as warm as 90 degrees at night is both agreeable & refreshing Folks say that it is unusually dry this season for this time of the year but I think that one characteristick of the country here is rather apt to be extreems of wet & dry weather & some say "that it is always either too wet or too dry" It is about nine O'clock & I'll go up to the house & so I'll give you good night & you will probably get it about the 24th of August

Wednesday Evening 8½ O'clock July 19

I kinder want to say something to you to night, seeing I have got the Office all to myself again but I don't know hardly what I have got to write about that you would care any thing about Isaac has not got back yet & Crosby has been here waiting for him but has gone back again to little Muddy They are not laying Track yet on this Div on account of not being able to get their Iron up Big Muddy oweing to the very small freshet this spring in the Missouri & in consequence they have to wait untill the Track is completed through the first Div so that they can bring their Iron over that to the 2 Div but they have got that most done so that they will be ready to commence laying track again soon but perhaps they will not do much at it till the hottest of the wether is past

The thermometer to day has stood only at 94° it is now at 8 8°, will probably be down to 80 before morning the wether feels as warm usually by 8 or 9 o'clock in the morning as at any time in the day though perhaps the thermometer may stand a little higher in the middle of the day but there generally comes up a little breeze over the Prairie after a little, which makes it quite comfortable if one keeps in the shade — I see I

to much & so it has got to be [illegible] I think I will [illegible]
Stop writing & go up to the boarding house & get [illegible]
though it is so warm that I don't feel like going to bed very early yours &c

New DuQuoin Station July 29th 1874

My Dear Wife I have such a convenient chance for writing in Isaac's Office that I must write every week whether I have any thing to say or not it is now about 10½ o'clock Sabbath morning the Thermometer at 92° but it is quite comfortable in the Freight house there is a good fresh air stirring as there usually is in the Open Prairie Isaac has been writing some this morning I suppose to his Wife & now he has up above to lounge & I will improve the opportunity to scratch my sheet over there is no preaching very near that is of "any account" & rather warm so we do not go to meeting to day in fact it hardly pays to ride four miles in the hot sun & dust to hear such preaching as is most common here, especially while Mr Bird is gone away, considering we have such a comfortable place to stay & such a variety of Books & papers to read Samuel Conant is here yet he had a letter from his folks yesterday they wrote that his wife was sick so much so that his Daughter who had engaged in a school had to leave it & go home to do the work they wrote that they were afraid she would not live a month, I suppose likely she has worried some about Samuel he did not write very often & I suppose they ~~have~~ ~~been~~ expecting him home every week this three months, he has concluded to start off tomorrow he feels very nervous & bad about starting he is not used to travelling and is afraid of the cholera &c wishes he had gone home in May

One of the Stock P. M. well. Samuel has just started for St. Louis. Just as we were sitting down to dinner there came by a team wagon going direct to St Louis loaded with Chickens & Poultry (alive) (they always carry their Poultry & hogs to market alive in this country. they would spoil before they could get them there if they were slaughtered) and we out & hailed the teamster and got a chance for Samuel to ride to St Louis & gain one day from on the Stage to St Louis & will probably take the evening Train to Chicago Tuesday
He calculated to have gone about the first of May but kept waiting I suppose for me to go too. till I concluded to stay all summer & then there was so much chatter in St Louis & about the River that he was afraid to go he will probably save about $150, besides his expenses here & back for his work 6 months
It is very dry here the corn crop is suffering, other crops, what few there are, are out of the way pretty much harvested there has hardly been rain enough to lay the dust, since the spring rains about the time that Isaac went East then it was all rain for a while I guess there is no water for cattle within 3 or 4 miles of here except at the wells and some of those are getting short I believe people generally have to water their stock at wells in the summer
I should like pretty well to hear how you get along with the haying & whether you have got some good help I am some afraid you will be bothered about hireing good help very early, & whether you are likely to raise much on the farm & how the hay crop is &c &c &c &c &c &c &c &c &c &c &c and so on

Probably you used to & reconciled to living alone, (Mercy, not alone, for you have the children with you) so that you can get along without me another 6 months, it seems some time to look ahead but it will soon be past I cannot tell yet anything about when I shall come home I perhaps had better stay, if you are all well, & can get along well without me &, I have my health, as long as I have the chance to do as well as I am doing now
I suppose that it will cost considerable to get my haying &c done & in order to make it a paying operation I shall have to stop an till I make up a year's time or more It seems a good while to be gone from home & it is — kinder tough too but I think I had better stop a while now I am here I suppose likely I shall get a letter from you in about one week ie. about the 30th or 31st of July I have not had any from you since I came back I had one from Mother directed to Isaac —
I should like to know whether the Independent comes regularly to you I subscribed for it, to be sent there I wonder if Charley & Josie go to school & learn well or do they stay & help about the haying & how do little Mary & the other little one agree
I do feel as if I wanted to get a letter from home
I scribbled a little last Wednesday night. Because I had nothing better to do Intending to send it when next I write. And now I'll enclose it in a letter to you Your Affectionate Husband
C. W. Rich

Freight-House Office

Cain Station Tuesday Eve. July 25 1854

Dear Albina It is now ½ 9 o'clock. Isaac has gone away went yesterday morning expect he will be gone most all the week & although I wrote you last sabbath more than I had any thing to write, still seeing I have the Office all to myself with pen's ink & paper so handy I will just commence another letter to you, though now I have began I dont know as I can find any thing to write that will be worth your trouble to read, I "reckon" you'll think I have not forgotten you yet, & perhaps you may suspect that I should like pretty well, to hear from you, pretty well I have just been looking at the Almanac & calculating (perhaps for the 20th time within 2 weeks) when I should get another letter from you & I calculate it will be the 5th of August. I suppose that by this time you have just got or rather Walter has just got fairly into the haying, I hope that you have succeeded in getting some good help & Walter must be careful and not work too hard if you cannot get help enough to get it all in you can let it be till others get done & save some for seed & get along with it somehow, The thermometer has been up to 99° today it was at 90 about sundown, but there was so much air stirring to day that it has not been at all uncomfortable working in the shade It is past nine O'clock & so I shut letter stop. Office

The Mercury is up to 96 & thirsties now ½ 9 O'clock but there is a good air stirring & it is not uncomfortable at all. Freight House Cain Station Tuesday Eve. July 25 1854

Dear Albina It is now ½ 9 O'clock. Isaac has gone away went yesterday morning expect he will be gone most all the week & although I wrote you last sabbath more than I had any thing to write, still seeing I have the Office all to myself with pen's ink & paper so handy I will just commence another letter to you, though now I have began I dont know as I can find any thing to write that will be worth your trouble to read, I "reckon" you'll think I have not forgotten you yet, & perhaps you may suspect that I should like pretty well, to hear from you, pretty well I have just been looking at the Almanac & calculating (perhaps for the 20th time within 2 weeks) when I should get another letter from you & I calculate it will be the 5th of August. I suppose that by this time you have just got or rather Walter has just got fairly into the haying, I hope that you have succeeded in getting some good help & Walter must be careful and not work too hard if you cannot get help enough to get it all in you can let it be till others get done & save some for seed & get along with it somehow, The thermometer has been up to 99° today it was at 90 about sundown, but there was so much air stirring to day that it has not been at all uncomfortable working in the shade

It is past nine O'clock & so I shut letter stop. Office

Friday Eve., 8½ Oclock. Isaac got back last night & brought me two letters, I did not expect any till saturday & thought doubtful about getting them till next Saturday it seems that you got my letter of 2nd July Wednesday instead of Friday or the next Monday as I expected. I supposed you would be some little disappointed when you found I did,nt come I was sorry I could not have let you know it sooner so that you might have engaged help for haying I was afraid Walter would work too hard he must be careful, & hire what is necessary & let the rest go. I am willing to pay him for staying & taking care of things if he is not able to do any work & he may work just what he is able to & I will pay him to his satisfaction

In making up my conclusion to stop longer I considered that if I went home at the end of six months, my traveling expences here & back & my board (I have been paying $2,62. per week most of the time) & my incidental expences & yours too, would eat up about all my earnings so that I should not have much left, but I thought that by hiring 50 or 60, dalls worth of labor that Walter could get along with the work pretty well & even if you have to pay 70 or 75 for labor I think it will be better for me to stay longer.

I want to come home bad enough but as for the work I had as live do what I have to do here as what I should do if I was at home

Sabbath Morn. July 30th 10½ Oclock The Thermometer is up to 95° but there is a fresh wind blowing through the house which makes it very comfortable Yesterday afternoon I went up on the train to the station with some lumber, Sash paint & Oil &c for the boarding house there. when I came back the thermometer stood at 100° but I don't mind the heat at all though I am not out in the sun much; I am very comfortably situated about my work can have my choice of kinds in a measure but I dont do very much of any one thing it takes up some time to look after & take care (of things) It is remarkably dry people say dryer than they ever knew it to be so early in the season they think there cant be more than ½ the usual crop of corn anyhow. We turned the horses out on to the Prairie last night they usualy come up ~~every~~ morning after their corn & water but they did not come this morning & I had to go after them but did not find them till it was too late to go to meeting; however, it is much more comfortable staying here than riding off 3 or 4 miles in the hot sun & through the dust which rises in clouds, it is dry & fine & feels like hot ashes to step into the grass on the Prairie is almost entirly dry the corn leaves are rolled up with the dry weather, there has been no dew not enough to wet the grass in the night for sometime if it holds dry much longer it will be a hard time for stock next winter, I dont know that it has been so dry for a large extent of country probably not for I have known of some pretty heavy showers but little distance from here, but there has not been enough to wet the ground here for 6 or 8 weeks

It seems that Dr DeWitt & family had not got there at the date of your letter (July 14th) but would be there the next week. I supposed they would be there the second week in July. Isaac just had a letter from Bangor they were then at the time that letter was written. I infered from Isaacs letter that Mother had some idea of going with ann when she went home. I think Mother would enjoy a visit to Ohio much but the journey this time of the year would be likely to be very warm & dusty would be more pleasent in the fall & winter. I wish Eliot could have carried his wife up to Milo before now (while she was a bride) I think likely you won't see her till she gets to be a mother. I think Eliot as well as I have been very lucky in their selection of wifes. I like Mariah very much what little I have seen of her but that is but little but nobody can help loving Antoinette as quick as they see her & they more they see her the more they will love her. Anne I think has got a nice good husband & respectable & good family a beautiful location in a flourishing Village & good society &c all to her mind (& she is worthy of it all) In fact as a family we are remarkably fortunate in every thing really necessary to essential happiness, & ought to be very thankful.

I suppose likely that it will be somewhat hard for you to get along with the children especially when they go to school but you must be steady & mild but firm with them & keep them as pleasent as you can, by watching & anticipating their wants & checking their wayward-ness naughtiness &c before they begin. I know it requires a great deal of care, but something an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure. Your affectionate Husband C. Wilder

I believe I have got my hat about full of dust I think there is enough without it's letter (God. Hughes

Thursday Eve (Aug 3.) Well it is 8½ Oclock again the boys are all gone up to the house and I have had my wash. Isaac has not got back yet, here I am alone I can read or write but, seeing I have good pens & Ink so handy it kinder, tempts me to write even though I have nothing worth to write. The thermometer has been up to 102° to day there came up a very violent wind just at night with a few drops but no rain here, except a few sprinkles, (but I should think that there was quite a shower a little to the north of us) The wind blew part of our staging down & made the loose boards fly about it blowed off about one or two thousand feet of dry thin boards off from the board piles & scattered them all about the air was full of dust the roads had got wore up the dust about 2 or 3 inches deep of fine Prairie dust and the air was full like a violent blowing snow-storm, blowed about half an hour since the blow it has got quite cool the Thermometer down to 82° now

One of the Carpenters that works here has got a little girl about 2 years old, she frequently comes to see her Father (they live close by) & brings her whistle & say baby she frequently lays down on the shavings and goes to sleep (it is a fine good cool place & not many flies to trouble her she make me think of little Mary & I think she looks some like her with her

he has two little boys a little bigger

that they can get their Iron up over that by railroad from
it is a bedroom 10 by 60 all open 35 feet high
with 6 doors 7 feet by 3 ft 8 light windows 4 ft by 8 ft
below & 2 doors above 6 by 7 & 10-15 light windows in the
roof all open so you are in no danger of stifling
for the want of air, well it is 10 o'clock & I
had better be thinking about my little cot bed
of which there are two up over head, good night
Wednesday Eve Aug 2nd 8½ o'clock I am all alone
occupying this great house again to night and
I am tempted to write a few words to you
although it is so warm if I have the out side
Office door shut it makes me sweat & if I have it open the
wind blows so strong as to pretty near blow
out my candle but I manage by putting
my candle behind a wide board & I sit by the
side of it to get along nicely though it blows
The thermometer has been up to 101 to day
it stood at 96 at sun set & it is at 90 now
it would be oppressively warm even in the
freight house if it was not for the fresh breeze
which we have here in the open Prairie
Mr Mitchell has been sick so as not to be able
to be about for about a fortnight has had a
kind of slow fever or Billious fever at Mt Hope
Du Quoin it makes it some harder for Isaac but
as they are not laying track yet he gets along
well enough, I guess it is lucky for Isaac that
they did not get their Iron up so muddy by boat as
they used to last spring, because now they are

at so humid through the hot weather as
some extent to
this

August 18th
54

Tuscoigan Station

To My Dear little Boy,

Charlie B. Josie

I hope you are very good boy, and so I will write you a little letter

I will tell you how they haule Wood the other day with the Engine We have built a wood house 80 feet long & 30 wide & 16 ft high up to the eaves, with the Engine comes up drawing five great cars each or had about 7 cords of wood on it each car was piled with wood about 28 ft long with two tiers wide of 4 ft wood & about 4 ft high there were about 10 or 15 men rode up on the train & the way they made the wood fly into the shed, was — the way you would like to see me go into our wood shed, At 3 loads they piled half the

shed full clear up into the roof they some of it 20 ft high they put about 100. cords into one half of it the other half of the shed had boards filed in it
The new Engine that we have got here can haul 25 or 30 cars each car carrying 10 Ton or as much as would make a load for 10 two horse teams & they will go with it faster than a horse can run, 30 or 40 miles in an hour
most all the little colts about here are mules & funny looking little creatures they are & make a funny noise perhaps there are some raised about there this summer
It would make you laugh to see how the little girls carry water when their mothers send them after it, little girls 10 or 12 years old will set a pail full of water right on the top of their head & hold it on with

one hand and walk right along
with it without spilling a drop
I saw one little girl carrying
a pail full of water on her head
without touching it with her hands
& she turned round to see me &
the pail never fell off nor spilled any
of the water she just kept hold of
the strings of her bonnet to keep
it steady & walked right along
with it, I suppose these are Dutch girls
I suppose that you, (Charlie & Janie)
both read every day whenever
mother can spare time to hear
you I suppose the school is done
keeping by this time, but Mother
can hear you read if you are
good children & help her make
the fire & take care of little Sis
& do all the little chores you can
for her & always be kind &
pleasant to each other, and mind
quick just what she tells you to do
Your Affectionate Father C. W. Nash

To my own little

Daughter Mary.

Father dont hardly know
what to write to such a
little daughter especially as
he is not very well acquainted
with her lately
I hope you are a good little
girl & pleasent & know how
to mind your Mother
I want to see little Mary very
much & I shall come home after
a good while to see her
I suppose Mother lets you go
out doors sometimes with
Charlie & Josie & play in the yard
but you must be careful & not
go down and play in the road &
get run over by the horses & wagons
but Charlie & Josie will take care of you
that I suppose. Father hopes little
Mary will grow up a very pleasent
and good little girl
From your Affectionate Father C. W. Fisk

2 o'clock P. M.

I have got my sheet full but I will scribble a little more to you it was so warm this morning & no air stirring that Isaac & I both slept at home i.e. in the Freight house it being the coolest place in Southern Illinois I have been writing in Isaacs Office & he out on my work-bench it being cooler in the open building than in the Office Isaac has got his bed & clothing &c up in the second story over the Office the 2nd floor is not laid all over yet but there is enough laid to make a very comfortable sleeping place it being all open over the whole building & almost the same as outdoors There has just come up a little shower with considable Thunder & some wind which has lowered the thermometer from 92 to 82 but there will not be enough to wet the ground much which is getting quite dry It really seems sinful tough to make up my mind to stay longer but I rather think it best though it seems as though I did not know how to stand it so long without a wife especially as it was so late in life that I got one, I wonder whether you begin to want a husband yet & perhaps Charlie & Josie would like to see Father but I suppose likely little Mary has forgotten that she ever had a Father by this time I hope to get a letter from you again in the course a month or so I shall wait with as much patience as I can, I suppose you get a letter from me about every week, perhaps I had better send you a package of envelopes if you can't get any there & you can write some Sorts of days & write me a little oftener in a while

There is a man with his family stopping here a few days on his way to Nebraska he has a large wagon drawn by two large yoke of Oxen with a number of cows & horses & colts with quite a family of children but he has lost his wife he lives in his wagon & turns his cattle out on the Prairie & is waiting for cooler weather there are considerable many I should think that have an idea of going there

The passage of the Nebraska bill will have the effect of arousing the North I should think

The papers come here but sometimes two or three at a time & then may be not any for two or three weeks but probably the mails will be more regular now that the streams are not raised by heavy rains in this season of the year

I almost concluded last week to push right off for home & try to get there before Emma & her husband went away but I concluded that I probably could not get home before she would be gone away so I concluded not to try but instead I concluded to stop & try to earn some money & when I get enough to pay my debts perhaps I shall be on my way home I suppose Charlie goes to school & I hope he is a good still boy that will learn his book & not play all the time & perhaps Josie can go some but I think she is most too small to go so far

My love to you & all yours

Your Affectionate Husband

C. W. Rich

Near Old Fort Bell. The thermometer is now at 98, but there is a fine breeze so that it is not uncomfortable at all, we anticipate some rain before the week is over. (Yours) Dear

Du Corps Station Aug 13th 1864

Adbina Dear

I received your letter of the 28th of July last Thursday & I saw one from Mother the other day dated 25th. I dont have much time to write, or read either much except Sunday only occasionally when Isaac has gone away & I have the key to the Office I can sometimes get time to step in & write a half hour or so before bed time but when Isaac is here there is most allways sombody here on business or something so that I dont write much only on Sundays I suppose that you have to take such help as you can get to work at haying till others people get through, but I should think you would need some stouter men than those boys to get along much with the mowing & pitching but before this time I suppose likely that others are done haying & you have some such men as Austin & Wm Dolan & you will along with it pretty well will probably have done, before this reaches you I expected it would cost considerable to hire all the hay cut especially this year help is so scarce I calculated upon that before I concluded to stop but I thought as Walter was there he could see to it & get along just about as well though it of course cost more money by having to hire all the labor, I see by your letter that you are hoping or expecting me home in August, but I am sure

I should not have thought of stopping here & giving you the trouble of getting the hay without me, just for one or two months wages. I am not making such great wages, as that I could afford to do that, but I thought that after haying there would not necessarily be so much to do but that I could be away from home without much additional loss if Walter was there, and by staying here a few months longer (there being no great addition to my expenses) I should materially alter the relative proportion between my expenses & my wages I suppose that it will be almost the last of August before you get this & then considerably into Sept. before I get an answer to it. I want to know how long Walter will conclude to stop there & how you can get along provided circumstances should make it expedient for me to stay here till into the winter or till next spring, I have not, as yet, made any calculation about the time when I shall come home & can't very well at present, & one thing I want to know is how well, & how long you can comfortably manage to get along without me. I presume I want to come home as much as you want me to, but still circumstances may be such that it may be better for me to stop some time longer yet & if so, it is no more than hundreds do to be gone from their families months & even years. I know it is something of a job to take care of the children but you can get along with it well if you only think so, & not only think you can but, know you can, what you

need to exercise is determined firmness, with mildness & constant forethought & watchfulness with [illegible] perhaps you'll think that is considerable, & so would it be in perfection but almost every one can exercise a degree of it, & if a person thinks they can do & takes hold of with a will they can most always accomplish. Think how Mrs Hammond gets along with her family of boys & girls, but perhaps you'll think it is easier to preach than it is to practice, & that I know. I could always tell how to do any think better than I could take hold & do it.

I am glad to hear that Mrs Kimble has gained her case. I presume she is generally considered innocent though it is possible that some of her enemies may still pretend to believe otherwise but I should think that Lawyer Sanborn would be likely to show up Mrs Morton & Wymans tears & their wallet &c to pretty good advantage.

If Mr Sargent wants a deed of his Farm before I come home he can get an Administrator deed made out, fill it & send it to me & I can sign it & send it back again your Father can fix it for him but I suppose it is just as well till I come home if he thinks so. I wish your father & I two could sell all our real Estate in Milo though I dont know as I should move west if I did sell there but I think that the western southern climate would agree with your Father better than that & I am satisfied it does with me or at least it has so far. I think that in many respects two or three degrees farther south would be a better location than this the land is better, and it's nothing faster, but timber is not so plenty nor the water so good. This is just about 32° N. latitude.

we have had no rain here yet the grass & every thing is drying up people say that the corn crop will be an entire failure a great deal of it has not had any rain on it since it was planted, there is one man lives one mile from here who has got 80 acres in corn says he shant raise two bushels it was so wet last spring that he had to plant it all over the second time because it rotted in the ground & now it is drying up & the ears dont set at all, he has got 300 hogs & no prospect of raising any thing to fat them on, it is a small farmer that has not 40 acres of corn & 30 to 50 hogs but I dont know what they will do with them, those who live near the timber can let them run in the woods and live on acorns which they usually do considerable people mostly about here depend mostly upon corn for not only fatting their pork but to feed horses & cattle in winter those who sowed oats & wheat had a pretty good crop the spring & the Oats & Winter Wheat came off before the draught affected them much

It will be a pretty good time to buy a farm about here if a person would as there are so many, on account of not raising any corn will be for selling out & going to Kansas or Nebraska. The price of Pork in St Louis they say is now 2 to 3 dollars a hundred, & some one said the other day the regular price for store hogs (ie Hog farmers) is two bits (25 cts) a doz, one man they said, who had 60 hogs offered five dollars if any body would take them & drive them off but I believe he backed out of the trade when he found they were likely to take him up & called upon him to pay over the 5 dollars. It is comfortably warm here the thermometer stands at 92° now, at 11½ o'clock not much air stirring now will probably breeze up a little in the P.M., it begins to come in a little now & then already. Mr Mitchell has got well enough to be about now he has been laid up about three weeks he & Isaac are both here now writing. There is lots of Books & papers here to read but I dont get much time to read it takes me so long to write perhaps I may just in another scrap into this before night. I suppose it will pay to send Hamilton P.O. to nieces from Your Own C.

Decatur Station

Wednesday Evening Aug 16th 1854

Dear Albina As I have such an opportunity of communication for writing all by myself, Anna being gone up to Centralia & Whitehall down to Big Muddy so that I have none to molest or make afraid & it is now but 8½ o'clock so I will begin a letter to you, because I have a kind of an inclination to do so, not because I have any thing in particular to write, not having yet received any from you since I wrote last, but I suppose there is one on the way & Isaac will probably bring it down from Mt Hawkins on his way home from Centralia We had quite a nice little shower night before last with strong wind & thunder & lightning which cooled the air so that the thermometer was down to 68 in the morning & only up to 84 to day, now it is at 72° but there was not rain enough to do much good to vegitation in fact corn is pretty much past cure people about here have given up all expectation of raising any corn, & they are selling off their stock there have been four droves past here within a week, a good many of the most poor handed farmers have corn enough to last another year but they wont sell a bushell & it is hard to buy even a few bushells to feed hogs (every body depends mostly on corn here not only to fat hogs but to feed cattle & horses, as well as to make corn dodgers to eat themselves or rather for themselves to eat, Smoked hog & corn —

Dodgen (in Jonathan) with office is the biggest part of a regular chicken living
This dry season & the failure of the corn crop has given a great many people about here the Kansas & Nebraska fever, it rages quite bad & it only broke out a few weeks ago, it is almost as bad as the California fever & I dont know but it will carry as many off. I think it will rage worse yet before winter. There are a good many wanting to sell their farms, It will be a capital good time this fall, if a body wanted to buy farms about here. Isaac is calculating that this will be quite a valuable location on account of the excellent & quite extensive Coal beds which underlie this vicinity. There has been a Geologist along exploreing for the Rail Road Co lately, who says this is the best chance for coal in Southern Illinois
It may make property here very valuable
well it has got to 9½ o'clock & I had better off to bed
I suppose at this moment you are sound asleep with our three little ones, or one of them at least with you it being there about ½ to 11 o'clock. I wish I could just look in & see you, but likely as not I might wake you if I should, for if I was there I don't believe I could keep away from you, perhaps I should kiss you — or something there — I did not calculate when I began to write but a few minuts when I began & here I have been at it most an hour & got all this nonsence; so now I'll wish you — not only one but a good many — good-nights & joys too,

Aug 20th I received a good letter from you last Thursday and another yesterday it is good to have letters from home so often rather than to have to wait 4 or 5 week as I did some times It is now ½ past 2 P.M. Isaac & Mr Mitchell have gone over to Dan Bacons to Meeting but I thought I would stay & write I dont have much time to write except Sundays except occasionally when Isaac & Mitchell are both gone the Office is unoccupied and I can take a little time out of my sleep we generally have breakfast before 6 in the morning I dont get time to read much I occasionally can take up a paper a few minutes but have but little time except Sundays though I can do just as I please still it is easier to make men work by example than by precept I hardly whet to say yet about the time when I shall come home it seems that now you have got the haying done and most of the hardest of the work that I had better stay along enough to earn something to pay for it all, I know it is hard for you as well as for me to be seperated so long, but then you know too that it is a hard chance to get money to pay debts &c in Wis & I shall soon be an old man past labor with a family of small children to provide for & educate & it stands me in hand to improve any opportunity to get a little start I want to know how long Walter will stay whether till next fall or Winter or till next spring and on what termes &c & if he cannot stop till winter whether you can get George to stay till I come home & how long you can get along with him if it should be best for me to stay here so long Isaac has just back & brought me three peaches very good but small the dry weather or something has pretty much destroyed the Peaches & apples too I believe so I shant get Peaches enough to pay for the Clothing

Tell George he may have my gun for ten dollars it cost me about 15 when it was new. I was offered 14½ for it once the gun smith at Bangor when he put a new tube into it, said it was worth 12 dollars as guns were then but George may have it for 10,

I don't think it best to sell the wool at present it is so low it may be higher this fall if not I think it best to pack it away in a snug dry place and let it stay till next season. They say it gains in weight enough to pay the interest

I want to know particulars about the crops, cattle sheep lambs &c & every thing it has been so long that I have most forgot how things look about there. I hope Charlie will take hold of his book and learn to read. I dont like to have him behind all the little boys but perhaps when he gets started he will get along better. We had a letter from Mother & Lucy yesterday I am very sorry to hear that little Percie was so sick I hope he is better before now I have just written a piece of a letter to Mother & Lucy & Ethiel. I have not done much but write to day I should like to step in and see you the rest of the day, it seems rather hard to have ones own children forget them & to be a stranger to ones own family I shall not decide for certain when I shall come home untill I have an answer to this & hear something about what Walter will do and how you can do with George, come home when I may you had better get George to stay if you can and get wood all prepared for winter & the Wood shed filled up somehow or a winter supply. Yours C. W. Rich

DuPoign Station Aug 20th 1864

Dear Mother

I have received a number of parts of letters from you & some whole ones & I dont know but I ought to have directed some of my letters to you, but I calculated them all in part to you while you are at home there with Albina, but now you are with Lucy & Mariah I suppose I must direct some to you, but now I have not time nor talent sufficient for more than half of one to each & that of the slimest order,
I hardly know what to think about how long I had better stay here, now that I have staged so long, & they have got through with the haying & all the worst of the work, it seems as if it would be best for me to stay a while longer, as the loss and expense attending my being away cannot be much increased by my stopping a while longer & every month adds to the proportion of my earnings, compared with my expences, I know it seems hard & is hard for Albina to stay there alone so long, & it is rather hard for me to stay from home so long, but it is such a chance in Mich to procure the necessaries & comforts of life for a family (and pay Taxes) that it seems that if I have an opportunity here to earn a little to get a start with (though I dont know as my earnings will be much more than my taxes & expences) I ought to stay a while if they can get along comfortably at home without me I supposed when I commenced

to stop here longer. That Walter would willingly stay
till next fall or winter or till spring & I thought
if he was there to take care of things that by hiring a
few months work they would get along pretty well
though I calculated that it would cost more than if
I was at home for no one can do another business so well
as a man can do it himself, , If Walter can't stay I
don't know but I had better come home early in
the fall, but if they could be comfortable & contented
without me, I suppose it would be for my interest to
stop here till winter or towards spring, though to be
sure I dont know hardly how to stand it so long my
children are forgetting me and I am getting to be a stranger
to my own house & my own business, But now I am away
out here & there seems to be an opportunity to earn a little
& as I have worked hard for 25 years of the best of my life
without getting ahead much, & shall soon be too old
to do much, while my family will be still young -
therefore it seems that I ought to improve any such
opportunity that comes along to provide for a Winter day.
It is four weeks to day I believe since Samuel Conant
started for home. I told him to write as soon as he got
home but I have not heard a word of him yet. Dont
know but he may have got sick on the way home but perhaps
I may have another letter from in fifteen years
I have not much time to write except Sundays. & I suppose
I have written to you pretty often & therefore there is nothing
for me to write that is of any consequence but I wish you
would write to me without waiting for my letter, it is
about as much as I can do to get time to write to Albina
From your Affectionate Son C W Rich

Dear Sister Lucy:

We received a letter from you & Mother yesterday dated August 7th I was very sorry to hear that little Percie was so sick I hope & trust he is better before this time ever since Little Willie died I have been afraid of bowell complaint in children, we thought there was nothing very serious about it till it was too late to tell him, but if we had been ever so much frightened about, or careful of him we dont know as it would have saved him, circumstances are ordered & directed by an all wise Providence to suit the end which Infinite Wisdom sees will be for the best & after doing what we, in our short-sightedness think best, (which sometimes proves to be just wrong) we have only to take & bear patiently whatever comes upon us but always hoping for the best & never worrying ourselves needlessly about anything You must have had a real good time of it while Anna & the Doct were with Antoinette & Mariah too Antoinette is so good & I dont know but Mariah is also & likewise too but I am not so much acquainted with her not having seen her but once or twice I thought there could not be any body else hardly as good as Antoinette but I dont know but I was as well pleased with Marah what I saw of her as with Antoinette at so short an acquaintance. I suppose that if it was not for the torment of the Skeeters you would have enjoyed the country ride up into the Wilderness better, but these are no pleasure, but what have —

Also little Percie is sick. Dear is sick & your former letter Mother she would not be too much frightened to come & see Charlie & I would do so myself & give you a great deal of pleasure & I would be very glad to have him there & I would be too much pleased to go

some drawback even in the meeting of dear friends there is the anticipation of parting again. Dr Dact De Witt appears to me to be a very pleasant social good sort of a man, well informed & moreover a Gentleman. he has a very beautiful situation in Elyria & it is a very thriving Village in a pleasant climate & I think very good society. I think Ann is very fortunate in her settlement after waiting so long & not only that, but I think he is equally fortunate in getting such an excellent Mother for his Daughter, to say nothing about such a pleasant companion for him in his old age. I dont see yet but this is as healthy a climate as any and generally pleasant to be sure when the thermometer is up to 96 or 100 in the coolest place on the Prairie it is rather uncomfortable being out in the sun long at a time but there is most always a good breeze on the Prairie & it is not uncomfortable in the large open Freight house though when the thermometer is up to 102 as it has been a few times with a good breeze coming in at the door feeling like it came from a hot oven a little ways off. it is comfortable to what it would be without the wind. I think the climate agrees with me so far very well my health has been as good or better than it has for 3 or 4 years. you know what poor "Spead ways" I make at letter writing & you must excuse me from doing much of it but I wish you to remember that I like to have letters as well as any body if I cannot write so well. I know you have a good many letters to write & I ought not to ask too much of you, still you can write so readily & I like to read your letters so well that I hope I shall have the pleasure of one from you convenient

Your affectionate Brother
O. M. Rich

I hope you & Mother will write frequently to Albion for it does Samuel like his new business

Tuesday afternoon Aug 1851

My Dear Allie

It is now 4 o'clock P.M. on my Own the last day of summer (save one) & has Anne just gone up to Centralia again and I have the Office to myself & there is such a great convenient place for writing that I believe I must begin a letter to you though it is only three days since I wrote & I don't know as I have any thing worth writing I suppose Isaac will have to be at Centralia more or less almost every week now they are doing a great work in the way of building there There is to be besides the Freight, & Passenger house (in which the dining room is 72 feet long) a Machine Shop & car factory & work shops of various kinds & an engine house 100 feet in diameter in the center of which there is a turn-table (ie) a circular table (like) set on a pivot just as high as the track so that the rails will come just even so as to run the engine onto it & then turn it round & run it off on any other track they please (of which there are to be an indefinite number) & they will stand back up against the wall all round the building like horse in stables. This Centralia will probably be quite a place there is the junction of the branches there & one to each place Chicago & the other point Galena on the Mississippi & near the junction of these two branches, the Ohio & Mississippi Road crosses the Ohio & Miss.

goes from Cincinnata to St Louis that road is now being built they have now got the track from St Louis to within 15 miles of where it comes this road & from Cincinnata this way they have got over 100 miles laid they are trying to get it done as soon as the Ill. Central is, Just above Centralia at a little village lately built up called Central City is where there was so much Cholera & the people were so frightened. The engines are running by now every day hauling iron for the tracklaying, the fireman on one of them has a little wife living in Pinckneyville 10 miles off & as he can't often leave to go to see her she frequently comes over & stays one or two nights with him & rides up & down with him once or twice on the train but my wife is forbidden off them that

The Thermometer has been up to 99° to day, it is seldom quite up to 100, though it is occasionally it is up to go now it was at 90 when I sat down to write. It generally gets up to between 90 & 100 in the day time & down to about 80 in the night The evenings here are very pleasant there is generally a kind of dry wind no dampness like our summer evenings, in fact there has been hardly any dew for nearly two months such an early drouth, they say, was never known here before

It is nine o'clock & I must go up to bed alone in my little bed in this great bed room (10 by 60 feet) I can imagine just how you look stretched out your self on the bed in our bedroom perhaps fast asleep, likely enough I should like pretty well to be there with you Good night to you

Saturday Eve 8 oclock. Here I am all alone
again to night & somewhat disappointed in not
receiving a letter to day as I had hoped to since
Isaac came home from Centralia Thursday, & last
night Mr Mason (the Chief Engineer) with another of
the Big Bugs) came here & stopped with Isaac over
night slept up in our big bedroom rather than
to go up to the boarding house, said they were
afraid they should have had to put up with some 7by9
bedroom two in a bed, were much pleased to be
accommodated in our good cool airy chamber
with windows & doors open, went up the line with
them this morning I suppose as far as Centralia
Mr Mason is receiving ten thousand dollars a year
salary from Ill C. R. R. Co. & some 8 or 10 thousand
both as consulting Engineer on one or two other
roads I suppose he is one of the first Engineers in
the U.S. I guess he thinks pretty well of Isaac
he is a very pleasant, agreeable man
There has just been a Justice Trial for assault &
Battery here I dont know but I ought to have
gone over & seen the trial, only a few steps,
on account of learning something of human nature
but I never was much interested in such little brawls
& I had rather be here alone thinking of you & to you
but now I have got this page so near full I still I dont
know have got any thing that will be of any interest
to you or worth your reading, I dont suppose that you
care to know any thing about these little trifling
events that happen among strangers & though I dont seem
to have much to write still I keep having a kind of
an inclination to write often but it is time to say good night

I have a nice room comfortable & clean, but little else. Still it is alone. I guess it cannot be helped for one night (as) it is your wont want any thing else yet

Sunday 2 o'clock P.M. I am here alone to day enjoying my own company & thoughts with plenty of good book & paper &c I have been reading most all day, the now only I washed my pantaloons & stockings this morning shall have them to mend this evening I am such a bungler at darning stocking & mending pants, that I choose to take my opportunity to do it when there is nobody about so I have to do it when I can two or three of the hands came into the Freight house this morning while I was getting my water &c and getting ready to set down to read I suppose that they would have been glad if I had given them some newspapers & invited them into the office to keep me company but but although I have so much roomth to myself I had rather have their room than their company & so I mind my own business perhaps they thought me unsocial & I suppose I am naturally somewhat so I never was much inclined to mix with strangers but there is nobody thinks more of or enjoys better the society of their particular friends than I do
We had quite a little sample of a Prairia fire the other night the grass is so dry the fire runs redily there has been so many cattle run on the Prairie that they have kept the grass down some but still made a wall of fire as high as a man head we took the precaution to burn the grass round near our buildings some time ago so that if the fire should happen to run over the Prairie we should not be in danger
I saw in some papers that there had been great fires in Maine, in Corinth & Garland &c which had done some damage to wood lots &c & some barns burnt but I have not seen any thing very particular about it
I am somewhat disappointed in not getting a letter from you yesterday I shall have to go to my valise and get out some of your old ones and read them over again Yours, ever E. H. Hall

I suppose by the papers, how you can not get along at home with out me. Well I will have to come home sooner than I expected & do what I can to help you along. I will write to you particularly & what I can say about coming home when I get there. Good bye for present

Du Corps Station Sept 10th 1864

My Dear Albina

I received (last Tuesday two letters from you dated Aug 18th to 25th in which you write (as usual) that you want me to come home that I am needed at home, but that Walter will stay till next spring if I wanted him to. It is bad that it takes so long to send letters & receive answers to them, last spring when I decided to stop through the summer, the last letter before that showed, that you were all getting along so nicely that if Walter could stay there, as I supposed he would, there would be no necessity of my coming home & I might just as well as not stay till fall or winter then after I had decided to stop longer. The next news was that Walter was more unwell & not able to do much work but it came too late to alter my decission as it was then too late for me to get home in season to do much at haying. I thought then that perhaps it might be expedient for me to stop till winter or Spring if you could get along comfortably without me. I then thought some of buying a home lot in Centralia & perhaps build some kind of a house on it in the winter before I went home, but some two or three weeks since I concluded to let that speculation go & come home this fall & wrote you some three weeks since that I should probably come home late in the fall now comes your letter, that Walter can stop till Spring if I want him to, but as I had made my plans

so as to come this fall. I think I had better come & now the only question remaining is as to the time & that will depend a good deal on, how you can get along about the fall work, getting ready for winter & getting wood &c. I wish you would write as soon as you receive this as near as you can calculate how much money I have need to bring home in order to square off all your bills, pay the hired labor, the ballance of the Store bills, Taxes, &c. and pay what we owe Walter so that I can tell how long I must stay in order to get money enough to "foot the bills". Write me also how you can get along with the rest of the work for this season & as near as you can what the expence will be & when Walter wants to go away if he goes this fall. With regard to the time of my coming home on account of my health I do not feel any apprehension though I have no doubt I may suffer a little personal inconvenience by coming to a colder climate just as the cold weather commences but that don't weigh any thing with me I should like if I can to bring home money enough to square off your bill, so that I can commence the new year without being in danger of meeting duns I am sorry that Josie was so unwell but suppose he is well again before this time. We had a letter from Bangor Dated Aug 27 which gave us the glad news that Mariah had got a daughter & was doing well I have not much acquaintance myself with Elisha's wife but our folks all seem to like her very much & I think Elial as well as all the rest of us have been very fortunate in our family connections. I think we are

all highly favored, as a family, in having such lovely, loving, & loveable connections. In fact have such men as Dr. Delwitt, Mr. Rider, S. W. Fuller & S. S. & E. W. Metcalf in one family connection are hard to find & five such women as their wives, are still more rare (leaving you & I out as of no account) as we are as far as making any show is concerned,) but we can be thankful that we have such respectable and respected connections & try to maintain a character & train our children to usefulness so that our friends need have no reason to be ashamed of their relationship. I have no doubt but that I want to see you as much as you do me, & to come home as much as you want me to & then there is the children to bout but still as I have stayed through haying & you have been at so much trouble & expense & one or two months more won't add so much to your expense as it will to my wages that I ought to content myself here as long as you can comfortably get along there, but I hardly think it worth while for you to sit up & go down to your Father's it will get every thing so scattered round even if I should not come home till into December but perhaps I may come in Nov. or sooner if it is necessary. I shall wait till I receive an answer to this which will probably be sometime in the first week of Oct. before I decide when I shall come home. I have been gone over to Dunwoody to day to Meeting & Crosby & I am here in the Office writing. Crosby has been some unwell for a week or two past had a touch of the Fever & Augue but only slight has got about over it but not able to go to work yet

The other day the Engine ran over and killed two Oxen at one time which the company had to pay for. The Prairie is full of Cattle & horses hogs & sheep & the R Road not yet being fenced out the cattle begin to get accostomed to the noise of the engine so dont run away from it as they did at first.

It continues warm & dry yet the thermometer day before yesterday stood at 98 to a 100 most all day & it was at 96 at sundown this morning it was down to 72 it has not been along for weeks past & perhaps I might say months lower than 80 but few times in a night & but few times over 100 in the day time but generally between 90 & 100 in the shade & most all day, about the same. It is now ½ past 2 Oclock P.M. I have written till I have got sleepy I guess I will go up aloft and take a short nap as I dont think of much of any thing more to say. If I feel like it & can find any thing to say perhaps I may write another little scrap & put into this before I seal it up. I hope I shall be at home in time to go to Bangor with you about the first of good sleighing. I do really want to see home but I suppose I can wait awhile longer.

From your affectionate Husband

Your Own Charles

1864.

Decoighe Station Sept 12th.

My Dear Albina I received your letter of Aug 27 to Sept 2nd this morning. When Isaac is here, he sends to Mt Hawkins P.O. for the Mails so that we get letters quicker than we used to, The Train runs right by within 100 rods of Mt. Hawkins P.O. every day. It is some cooler to night than it has been the thermometer is now (8 O'clock P.M.) at 80 ° it was down to 70 this morning, Isaac has gone to Centralia again this afternoon so I occupy the Premisis alone to night & though there is lots of news papers that I have not read still I feel inclined to begin a letter to you, perhaps tis not because I think of you so much but may be because there is a good desk & plenty of pens ink & paper so perhaps you give me credit for more than I deserve I am sorry Josie keeps unwell so long but I suppose he will be well before this gets there & probably he is now so it is no use for me to worry about him because if he has got well I should loose it all, a great many people worry for nothing or when it does no good & so "suffer loss" we had a letter from Bangor dated 27th Aug giving an account of Mariahs good conduct, but we have heard nothing since. That said nothing about Mothers illness but I shall feel somewhat anxious till I hear again

It is a good plan to cut up these alders & I suppose that they are so handy that they are worth trimming out for fire wood, but the ground will need ditching & getting into grass or they will grow right up again. I had them all cut one clear up to the woods but neglected to ditch the ground any farther up than the bridge & they grew up thicker than before (wood
I know that it is a hard chance to get winter any where on that farm but Walter can see where he can get it best & what we cannot "pick up," we shall have to buy
It has got to be about 9 Oclock, (10¼ at Wilo) so I suppose I had better go to bed (alone) you are probably asleep by this time so it is of no use to try to talk with you any longer
Wonder if I could get into bed with you without waking you I should like to try it
I should like to know whether you want "any thing else" yet or not,——————
Thursday Eve 7½ Oclock Isaac has not got home yet from Centralia & I am here alone again to night perhaps you would suppose that I should be somewhat lonesom occupying this great building all alone at night & 'tis true I think of home when sitting at the desk alone at night but you know I always naturally liked my own company better than strangers, & I enjoy myself much better here, with my books, papers letters & two good candles to enlighten me, than I should crowded in with a house full of boarders

I dont know as I have any thing interesting edefying, instructive or amusing to write, but the nicest black Walnut, desk with a velvet cloth on the lid that opens down, spread out so temptingly before me, is enough to elicit an inclination in almost any one to write to their wife We had quite a copious shower yesterday afternoon it rained about an hour very fast with a strong wind I think there was more rain fell then has fell here before, put it all together since about the time that Isaac went east last spring There has been a few showers passed round within a few miles of us occasionally which has made a partial crop of corn in some small localities but all about here the corn crop is an entire failure people have cut up their corn for fodder, a great deal of it dried up entirely at the root before it set for ears at all, One reason of it's drying up so bad people about here dont half plow the ground they run over it with a one horse plow & just turn the top over about 3 or 4 inches deep & plant the corn & then never hoe it, only plow amongst it & expect 40 or 50 bush to the acre & generally get it & plant the same ground year after year I have no doubt but that if the ground had been plowed deep & the corn hoed & taken care of as we have to ours they might have got a tolerable crop even this dry season The thermometer has only been up to 86 to day it is now down to 75°. It is now nine o'clock & I guess I had better quit writing for to night or I shall not have any thing to write next sunday so Good night

8 October

Friday Eve, Sept 15th I am here alone again to night Isaac has not yet got back from Centralia I some expected him to day, I have been setting glass most of the time this week I have set the glass in the Passenger house 12 light windows 12 by 20 glass am now setting the Freight house windows which are 10 lights 8 by 10 glass most as large as our Meeting house windows I have used up over 50 lbs of Putty within a few days & have been making more this afternoon

Since the shower the wether is getting quite like fall the thermometer shows the mercury down to 64° & the wind blowing quite cool so that it is comfortable to have the doors shut I suppose it is most likely that you are having frosty nights about this time & perhaps a week ago on the last full I suppose it will be about the last of september before you get this letter & towards the middle of Oct. when I get an answer to this, If Watter should go away this fall perhaps he would not want to stay till he gets the harvesting all done, but probably you will write me about that before you get this so far as I am concerned he can stay there this next winter if he wishes or not just as you & he can agree perhaps he can be more comfortably located some where else I should like to have him stay convenient till I come home though perhaps George could get along 2 or 3 weeks alone I dont know yet when I had better come home but if you can manage to get along with the fall work & get ready for winter that I had better stay till Nov or the first of Dec, I can decide better about it after I get the answer to my last letter, & this

It is past nine O'clock about 10½ at Milo I suppose you have gone to bed & a-sleep before this time so I guess I will go to bed Good night C. W. Rich

Sunday Sept 17th We received two letters from Bangor Yesterday one from Eliab & one from Lucy & Mother I am real glad for Eliab that his dear good little wife is so well with her nice little baby Eliab writes: "Of course the little one is the brightest & prettiest of all female Children so I will not go into particulars in describing her beauties & excellencies, will only refer you both & Isaac to your own estimation of Charlie & Carrie when they were as old" E & Mariah were expecting her sister Mary there soon to spend the winter, but they had just got news that she was very sick they had just engaged a house & expected that Mary would have been there the next week to help arrange the house before they moved into it

I am very sorry for Lucy, on account of Perrie being sick so long I am afraid her anxiety & patience will almost wear her out. I don't wonder she feels anxious, for she always loved every body & of course must love her own dear little boy & he is a charming good little boy & really loveable besides perhaps he does not appear quite so active as Isaac is but he has a kind of solid good sense to his look that indicates an active mind & if he lives & grows up, you may look out for a smart, good man under Lucy's training Lucy wrote that they had called in Dr Mc. Rues & he hoped he could help him, he considered Homeopathy a kind of a

"no treatment System in general though he says those physicians do sometimes give medicine like Others he says that in many cases it is just as well "for medicine has done as much harm as good in the world Lucy wrote (skpt-3) that they really thought that Percie seemed a little better Lucy wrote that Mother had not entirely recovered from her ill turn yet Isaac had a letter from Nettie yesterday & her Picture withal taken lately I think from the looks of that that her health is improveing, according to her letter May seems to be well & smart & quite amusing to his Grand Parents & he is a pretty smart little fellow It has been unfortunate for him that his Mother has been unwell so much & obliged to trust the care of him to others so much I often used to think last winter how hard it must be for such an affectionate kind of a woman to have her dear little boy go off up stairs to sleep with the girl & perhaps hear him cry & not be able to go near him she was really very feeble for a good while

I suppose I shall get another letter from you next Tuesday your letter lately usually come Tuesday when Isaac is here & sends to Mt Hawkins P. Office otherwise they would lay there till Saturday's mail I hope to hear by next letter that Josie has got quite well & Percie too I think it will do Charlie good to go down to Bangor and stop with Lucy a while but I am afraid it will be too much trouble to Lucy & her family

From your own affectionate Husband Charles.

Dunleigh Station Sept 9th 1854

Dear Albina. I received your last, dated Aug 31st & Sept 6th, last Tuesday. also one from Walter. I am glad to hear that Jamie is better hope he is entirely well by this time. I wrote to you I think a week ago that I thought I should come home sometime this fall it seems you had not received that letter at the time that you sent this (Sept 6th) but you probably got it the next Friday. there seems to be about two letters on the way all the time. I decided to come home sometime this fall three weeks before I received any intimation from you that Walter would stay till next spring but I think all things considered that it will be best for me to come sometime this fall but, the question is when & that I cant decide un till I hear more particularly from you in answer to my letters of the 3d & 10th of Sept which I shall probably get before the middle of Oct. and as it will be out of the question for me to get home in season to do any thing at fall work, to any purpose, I had better stay till late in the fall or perhaps till December is, if you can get along comfortably & get ready for winter without me. I can earn more here than what you will have to pay out to get done what little harvesting there will be to do & Walter can see to all the fall work as well as I can. I dont care about doing much more than is necessary to secure the crops & fix things comfortable &c

You write how much you want me to come home &c. &c. &c. probably I want see you as much as you do me, & then there is the children, besides Perhaps it would have been better if I had come before haying but I thought Walter was getting along so well that I should only be a kind of a supernumary & that I could earn more here than I could save there & although Walters health has been rather poor some of the time & you have labored under some disadvantage & inconvenience on account of labor being so scarce & high still I think if I can stay till late in the fall I can earn enough to pay the extra expense that you have been at but as for earning enough to pay for your trials & disappointments &c I dont expect to, but you must get your pay for that in the discipline & strengthening mind which you will acquire by bearing with fortitude the little trials & vexations &c and learn us also to appreciate the blessings & engoyments of family & friends. If we cannot bear the small trial of a seperation for only a few months how should we bear up under a real bereavement If I should act from my inclination I should start right home, but I reflect that a month or two after it is past seems but a little & I want to do what will best promote the interest of my family & if you are all well & in comfortable circumstances, & taking into consideration the fact that I cannot do much if I come home at this season of the year it seems to me that I had better stay a little longer & try to make up for the extra expence & inconvenience loss &c of my being gone

* whole business as I am to this regardless of expense I do not want to keep over winter at any rate, but if it will be best to keep the rest of the stock

Sabbath Evening 7 O clock I dont know as I have any thing more to say but some how I have an inclination to write a little more and fill up this vacant page. I have written so often & so much that it does not seem to be any thing new to write. I might tell over how much I want to come home & how much I want to see you & the children & then you would say: Why don't you come right along home then, so you see that would be of no use.

Isaac & Mr Rowley, one of the Contractors of the [illegible] on this division, went over to Ridgeway to meeting to day & I staid here & wrote & read all day I have hardly been away from the Freight house except to meals day or night for a month or more I dont know as I ever was so long right with in one spot as I have been here. I have thought some that I should like to take an excursion up into Iowa & Minnesota and about but probable by the time I conclude to come home I shall not want to step for any such excursion for if I was to make such a trip I should want more time than I should feel like giving to it at present I expect I shall get another letter from you about next Tuesday the 3d of Oct & another about the 10th after which I shall probably be able from the facts & information then received to make up my conclusion about what time I start for home. It rather seems as if I ought to stop about two months more at least if you can manage to get along well and comfortably there so long as that.

From your own loving husband - Charles

I am glad to hear that Charlie [illegible] well now & I hope will remain so & I am glad to hear every day from him & that he is minding his mother & Grandma & is a good boy.

I wrote some weeks ago, enquiring about the Oxen I suppose they belong to Samuel, but don't know but he expect me to buy them Walter I suppose would like the creatures if it was convenient to me

It seems now some like fall weather the thermometer is down to about 50 mornings it is now (12½ o'clock P.M.) 76° & it is cloudy to day we have had two or three quite nice little rains lately, when it does it is apt to rain fast but only a short time I think they seldom have any long drizzly storms here as we have down East, especially in the summer it is continued fair & cloudless weather in fact there has hardly been a cloudy day since last spring till within a few days but this season has been a very unusual season for drought here as well as in many other places

We had a letter from Anna last week she writes that they were well but that it had been sickly in many places about there it had been remarkably dry the ground parted up & hardly half a crop of wheat & corn & fruit very small & defective & decayed on the tree before 'twas ripe &c

Rufus Crosby & another young man with him from Bangor or Hampden arrived here last week, they intend to buy each of them a horse and take a horseback journey through the northerly part of Illinois, Iowa, to Nebraskey, & all about I don't know how long they intend to be gone on their tour & exploration they will probably ride till they get sick of it & then sell their horses & come back by water or railroad

I must stop to write any more now if I think of any thing more with I will write it this evening I write to Wm by another week or two I don't know any thing else to say to him now, more than I have already written in my last letter. Yours Affectionately — Old man C

'18

Union Station Sept 26

Dear Albina It is nine o'clock Tuesday Eve
& I have been engaged for an hour or more reading newspapers
& read the news &c, &c, & now I will
begin a letter to you. I dare say you are all fine
time again & I am here alone again enjoying
my own company which probably I prize higher
than most others do. I received to day your
letter of the 10th Sept written on an old account-
book, or rather I suppose on a half sheet of bill
paper found in the desk. If you had such a
pile of paper to go to as I have you would not
be put to such shifts. I see by your letter that
you have been to Bangor I hope you had a
good visit & I've no doubt you had, there cant
any body go to visit Suey without having a good
time, I should like to have been there to help
you enjoy it. I had been thinking about
carrying you & all the children down there
next winter some time when it is good sleighing
& I get a span of colts broke in, but if you
should not want to go again, perhaps I might
get Mary Kittredge to go with me,
How do you like Mariah, isn't she a nice little
woman almost as good as Antoinette. I don't know
but quite, I did not get acquainted with her much
I only saw her two or three times. Don't you think
that married people that have children enjoy
themselves much better than those that do not

one that with each additional child there comes an additional source or fountain of enjoyment & is there any less with the last than with the first child I seem to be getting sentimental & I guess that I'll be going to bed so good night

Thursday Eve. Sept 28th 7 o'clock. I have been sitting this hour in the rocking chair at the door watching the moon & thinking of what a good time you would have had for a week at Surry & how you probably would feel more lonesome than ever when you got back home again. It is nice to live in such a place as Bangor if one could be so situated as to live easy & comfortably so as to enjoy the advantages of civilized society instead of being as it were shut out from the world in such a kind of half civilized & heathenish place as Milo with so many inconveniences & disadvantages & have to pay so much (in the shape of taxes) too for the privilege of staying there not living. However there is no place nor situation in life but what a person can find something to find fault about if they are disposed to & it does not make such a great deal of difference anywhere a body is if he has not got money to live on he will have to work for a living & will be looked upon as "of no account" "any how" I sometimes almost wish that we with all our kin, could fairly get away from Milo & find some better place though Milo is well enough but the difficulty is with the inhabitants. The town is ruled by Rum & Locofocoism

I think likely I shall have another letter from you next Saturday giving me an account of your visit to at Bangor. I suppose you would love to "go visiting" by this time perhaps. would not you, think? The thermometer is now up to 80 it has been up to go to day I have got my pants to mend to night so I'll not write any more now, but perhaps I may have something more to say after I get your next letter so now I guess I had better Stop ——— Sunday 21 Oct 8 P.M. I expected to have got a letter yesterday from you ie if you wrote as you talked you should from Bangor but I suppose that you had so many things to enjoy and so much to take your time and attention that perhaps you did not write till you got home I suppose I shall on next Tuesday There is a Gentleman from N.Y. or Penn. or somewhere (a capitalist extensively engaged in the coal trade I believe) looking for a chance to invest capital I suppose, he & Isaac & Mitchell have been writing or reading all day it is raining or showery to day it is raining now nearly with almost continual thunder the weather has been quite warm last week to what it was two weeks ago the thermometer has been nearly to go most every day last week If men of heavy capital would go to speculating upon this coal in this place it would make this quite a place & I dare say would be likely to realize something handsome for his investment here he and Mr Keyes together own a piece of land adjoining the station that they have surveyed into town

on building lots & have sold considerable many but people have not begon to build much yet on account of the scarcity of material & the high price of labour when the Rail Road is completed so that they can get lumber &c by Rail Road & the demand for labor occasioned by building the road is past there will probably be considerable done in the way of building. there have been old buildings moved into Town for people to occupy till they could build but one regular store built this summer & that is a stone two story 50 feet long with a back part attached for a dwelling house

I dont know but I ought to write to Walter to day but I dont know yet what to say. I intend to come home sometime this fall but I have not determined yet when, & I am waiting for another letter to let me know how you can get along with the preparation for winter. I dont know how long Walter would be willing to stay if he does not stay all winter & I dont know yet how long circumstance here may make it best for me to stop provided you can get along comfortably there, it is probable I should think best if you can get along well with the things there to stop till some time in the last of Nov or perhaps till into December. I wrote you some weeks ago to know as near as you could tell the amount & what bills I should be called upon to pay when I get home so that I could know how much money I must bring home perhaps I may have to stay 3 or 4 months longer to get money enough to pay [illegible]

Your affectionate Husband C. H. Rich

Sabbath Evening 9 o'clock
Isaac & the Stranger Gentleman
have gone up to bed & though
I have nothing in particular
to say in addition to what
I have already written, still
it seems as if I wanted to
write something more.
I suppose that now while
I am sitting here trying to
write a little more to stick
into my letter you & the
children are snugly in bed
I can see you how you look
snuggled down with little Mary
& I spose likely Jennie & perhaps
you can imagine a little how
I should like to jump into my
place by your side or ←
It does really seem to be a long
time to be away from wife & children
but I must try to stand it a
while longer it will seem but
a little while when it is past

I suppose that you will probably get this about the 11 or 13 of Oct & I shall be likely to get an answer to it about the 24th of Oct & by that time I can probably tell pretty near when I shall be likely to start for home - You will probably have written before you get this in answer to my inquiries about your expenses & the amount necessary to settle the Balance of your Bills &c if not I wish you would write particularly when you get this for I want to bring enough of the ready; to settle up most of the bills I must try to get time to write to Walter next week & if I have time I will write again to Charlie & Jenie. I dont know hardly how to write such letters Good night to my own Dear Wife from your own Charles

Thursday Eve Oct 5th 1854

(My Own Wife I received the Bill of $21 & finished by Mother the 23rd & Mailed the 24th I received to night I am sorry I have to tell little Mary was sick at Bangor for I suppose that would cause you a disappointment on the arrangement of your visit to Mother and that was the reason I wrote you a letter in the morning, before you went home I feel in hopes that I shall hear by your next letter that she has got entirely well I feel very sorry for little Bessie I keep unwell myself I feel concerned for him, how it would almost kill Lucy if he should be taken away, but I hope it is all for the best if he comes he will get better I suppose Samuel & Caleb have been doing a pretty heavy business this summer I understood by his letter that they had sold $10,000 dollars of goods in four months average 10 thousand a month, but it is peculiarly hard times for business men this fall & I suppose Samuel has not been able to sell his lumber as he expected which would make it rather heavy for them but I guess they will "weather it" if they can meet their payments and get along this fall they will do well enough

I expect it will be rather hard times for, for, for the winter provisions are so high, but I think very likely the scarcity of provisions

may not be so great as many people imagine.
it will be if corn now is held at $1.00 per Bbl
but meat is but 3 to 4 cts pr lb
The Chief Engineer of the Macon was down along
the line yesterday & back to day he must
make long steps, he is right alone about his
business the Engine & every thing has to be
on hand to put him right through
When I get to be a big man with ten thousand
dollars a year salary I suppose people will
stand round, for me Mr Mason has ten
thousand dollars a year salary from this road
& as much more from one or two other roads
it is 9 o'clock & I had better be going
to bed for I suppose it is not best for me to
sit up any longer to talk to with you as probably
you are asleep long ago & if I was there
I should not be here The weather is getting
cooler it feels almost cold enough for a
frost though the thermometer is only at
68°. Tis a little "kinder" lonesome when
I come to go to bed all alone especially
when it is cold enough so that I want
to "snuggle up" to somebody but I can't
know but I can "tough it out" a month or
two longer so good night to you & pleasant dreams. "Call that"

From your own ——— Charles

(1814

(Tuscaloosa Station Saturday Eve. Oct 29th

My Dear Albina I received this afternoon your letter of the 23rd inst. I am glad to hear that you got home so well & that little Mary seems to be better A tumbler full of water with as much salt as it will dissolve will almost always check a diarhoea & charcoal or charcoal & honey is very good to correct the action of the bowels I have had occasion to take a little dose of salt & water two or three times this summer which is about all the medicine that I have taken since I have been here, except that I took some sulphur a few mornings & a dose of salts after it, for a breaking out like the Rash occasioned by the heat & violent exercise. I have not lost a day by sickness since I have been here I hope by the next mail that I shall hear that little Percie is really better I really feel anxious about him I should like to hear more particulars our Ranger folks & of your visit to the Ho. Isaac has been up the line since Thursday & has not yet come back yet so I am here all alone again to night I expected him back to day, I stay here alone most half of the nights now a days It has got to be after 9 (nearly 10 with you) & I suppose that you have gone to bed & left us two but not with you thought if I could I certainly would & so good night till tomorrow night when I will try to do better & finish this letter Yours &c Wm Kind

Sabbath Morning. 7½ Oclock It is a beautiful pleasant morning the sun shines bright & clear & the air is so mild & fresh like some of our pleasantest Sept days, September weather, here comes in October I suppose that they generally have more rain in the year here than with us but it comes in perhaps less than one half the time. so there is much more fair weather there are weeks together & sometimes months of steady fair weather without a cloud to be seen & hardly ever any of our drizzly soft rains it either rains right down, here, in showers or else lets it alone & generally with a good deal of wind & Thunder

Isaac got back last night in the night about 2 or 3 Oclock from Centralia & he is taking his sleep yet he has considerable business to attend to yet though as they have got the grading on this Div done there is not so many hands employed on the line, but the work now is more of it mechanical, putting up buildings of various kinds & requires considerable looking after I guess Isaac get along with this Div, as well as most any of the Div Engineers & will probably stand a good chance to get a good birth, on any other Road which Mr Mason should have the charge of, & his name stands so high among the list of eminent Engineers that he will be likely to have employment if any body has

Isaac is lucky too in having so good an Assistant as Mr Mitchell is & likewise in having one set of honorable substantial men for contractors on the whole Division & Smith one of the contractors is a connection of Mr Mason & Mr Mason married Hamilton's mothers sister, & being well disposed all round they get along without quarreling.

Sunday Eve Oct 8th I see by your letter that we shall be owing for labor & Taxes &c about $200, besides what we shall owe Samuel & Ethal for Flour &c which will probably be 50, or go though I dont know any thing about how much you have got If the mare had a colt I suppose we shall have to pay Brown $5, but not without, oh Bumps I suppose keeps the mare yet, but that can remain till I come home & so can the Taxes & probably Gould too you need not worry about any of these bills any thing that you can make any turn & pay without making it worse than to pay money you can pay but not fret or worry about anything. I think very likely we had better buy a few cords of good hard wood or Juniper. I rather think I had better stay here till Dec. if Walter can conveniently stay as long so as to make up my years work if I come just as the cold weather is coming on I shall not accomplish much there & I shall feel the cold more to start from here while it is yet comparatively warm & breathe an go so quick into a cold region than I shall to stop here till the cold begins to make its appearance here though I dont suppose there any danger to health any more than personal inconvenience to go right from summer to winter. I cant know as I want to fix upon any particular time yet to come home but perhaps the first, middle or last of December I shall have to stay till the middle to make up my years work but if there is any necessity for it I can come at any time in November You & Walter can tell better than I can how long it is

best to hire George for the sake of getting up wood I should think, not long, especially when the days get short & cold & at any thing like $12 per month If Walter want to go away before sometime in Dec. I can come home in Nov. though perhaps you might get George to take care of the cattle a week or two if Walter should want to leave before I get home but I think it would be better if convenient for Walter to stay till I come & things will be likely to go all right. After getting one or two more letter from you I can tell better when to come home so that I can probably let you know by the first of Nov. when to begin to expect me home I intended to have written to Charlie & Jenie to day but I had so much reading to do that I have not had time & I should have written in answer to Walters letter but I did not see as I had any thing in particular to write more than I have written in this I do begin to, or not exactly begin to write, but I do feel like I wanted to see home or more especially the folks at home it seems as if I had been from home some time though my time has been so much occupied that the time has seemed to pass very quick I suppose Charley has got so that he can read in the Testament pretty well by this time & I guess he knows most all his letter if not quite & perhaps can spell some words. I want to get home & hear the boys read & see little Mary talk

Affectionately Your Own — Charles

Dwight Station Oct 15th 1864

My Dear Wife

I received your letter of the 27th of Sept & 1st of Oct yesterday I am glad to hear that Mary is some better & hope that she is quite well before this time. & all the rest of you too. You write that Walter ~~started~~ going going away the 14th or 16th of Oct, I should have been glad if it had been convenient for him to have had him stay a month or so longer but I suppose that George can, if he is attentive & careful, and does not want to be off nights too much, he can take care of the things & keep you in wood the a few weeks till I come home George is naturally pretty fond of reading & if you will give him some good useful book & he will stay at home and read it will be vastly better for him & he will be likely to take better care of the things, too he has pretty good judgment for one of his age about farming business. & I have no doubt if he feels interested & tries he will keep things about right

You write how lonesome you are & how much you want to see me the and I have no doubt I want to see home & you as much as you do me but still come to set aside present feelings & look at it by the light of reason & judgment it seems now that I am here and a few weeks longer or shorter, after it is part will not seem of much

account & what I could do in Nov in the way of earning any thing then would not be much, to be sure, it would be convenient for me to be there before winter set in on account of fixing up the buildings some. Still there would be no time for any great repairs, only for temporary fixings & George can bank up the house well & nail on any loose boards around the barn & batten up the cracks with shingles or old clapboards or narrow strips of board & fix things so that you will be all tolerable comfortable till I get home & it seems to me that if you can get along tolerably or pretty considerably comfortable that I had better stop till the last of Nov or the first of Dec & perhaps till the middle of Dec which will make up my years work which I kinder want to do seeing I have got so near it. I know that a month or two looks to be some time to look ahead especially when one is waiting but it is but a short time after it is past & I think perhaps even you yourself after it is past & I get home again will be glad of my staying. I suppose that you have some trials of patience in taking care of the children but I guess you would have more trials of patience in not having them to take care of if you had been away from them as long as I have & then you could forget them & I think you could not easily do that, & you would come to the conclusion that being away from them was harder than the taking care of them. As for my wife it seems as if I could not stand it much longer away from her, but I must not let my feelings carry me away from my judgment

I suppose it is well enough to sell some of the sheep especially the "ram lambs." Sheep are as easily replaced as any stock on a farm, under it is hogs, but I dont very well like to have drovers pick for themselves among my ewes especially my choice long wooled ones. However there will be enough left probably. I think I should sell rather sell sheep & lambs than wool, at the present prices. I suppose that Walter can probably wait for his money till I come home if he wanted it sooner I could send it but there is some risk and trouble in doing it. I intended to have written to Walter before now but it takes me so long to do so much writing to you that I hardly get much time to read & there is lots of interesting books as well as papers to read. Isaac has gone up to Centralia again and I am here all alone again to day. I went up to Richmond (about 30 miles north of this place) last Thursday & took Isaacs team up and stayed at the end of Iron track and fixed in some cattle guards, and came down on the train Friday. Isaac went up Friday on the train and took his team and went on to Centralia about 13 miles from Richmond they will probably get the track laid through this Division by the first of December, when I can come all the way home, or to Waterville by railroad except 25 miles by steamboat on the Mississippi from St. Louis to Alton. I dont value the journey home any thing in the way of inconvenience except the expense of it only a pleasure trip in most any weather the worst of the journey is between Bangor & Lilly & that is so near home that it would be, as nothing

We have not had a frost yet, now. I suppose it will begin to freeze pretty soon. Hope you will have a good winter

3 o'clock P.M. It is beautifully pleasant today (as usual) the sky is clear the air is still & mild and the sun shines warm but not hot, it was quit cool this morning with a white frost on the boards & grass the first I have seen this year though I have understood that there was a little frost in some localities about the first of Oct. This is a delightful climate, i.e. if a person can be so situated as not to be exposed to being out in the hot sun in July & August & part of June most of the time except then & sometimes in those months it is very comfortable weather so Dom says if ever any long storms most all the time bright clear weather, or it has been so this year & I suppose that usually there is much less of wet & stormy weather than with us but when it rains, it rains, & sometimes & perhaps generally in the winter there is long wet spells of weather & plenty of mud which is just as sticky as Tar & slippery as grease & nasty as Taking it all round I think it a very easy country to get a living in & a pretty healthy country. I think as healthy as Maine but on some account it is not so pleasant as the eastern states the chance for schools at present is not so good though eventually it will be about all the new states have reserved lands for school fund which will be appreciated in time the original Sucker; race seem to care but little about education, but the poorer class of the population will soon part more off and make room for a better class of citizens or come up by the example of others and be themselves better citizens. It has got to be most 9 o'clock & I have got my paper most full & so I spose I had better quit & begin to think about going to bed alone. Hasn't I got most tired of sleeping alone, Charley

Dunreigh Station Oct 22nd 1854

My Dear Wife Yesterday I received two letters from you (dated) 4th & 11th of Oct glad to hear that you are all well & hearty you write that you dont know as you ought to write about all your troubles & lonesome feelings that is just how I want you to write but, that dont make it; that one must give way to their feelings & brood over their troubles & seeming difficulties, till they make them double what they would be if met with fortitude and resolution a habit of looking on the bright side of things but still providing against the reverse will sometimes save one much anxiety & inconvenience you write that Walter thinks of buying the Point farm I suppose it is pretty good land but I am not acquainted with it but should think from the number of different hands that have had a "dabbling" at it for the last 5 or 6 years that it may have been Cated & cropped till it was pretty well worn out for I suppose that the hay & grain &c have all been brought off from it

You write that you expect me home, if I am well the first of Nov, I am sorry to disappoint you again but this time I believe I have not yet set any definite time for coming home nearer than sometime in Nov or the former part of Dec, I hope that Walter will conclude to stop a few weeks longer unless you can hire some other good fellow a month or two to bank house & fix things up for winter &c if you can so that you can get along comfortable I think I had better stop through the

November If I come home just as the cold damp freezing rainy pinching uncertainable wintry weather comes on I should probably be so "curled up," "froze to death," that I should not feel like doing much & should not be likely to do as much as you could have done for 10 dollars a month & by staying here I can get about 50, which I think will pay you for waiting 4 or 6 weeks longer. if you could get Charles Livermore for a few weeks I should think he would be a pretty faithful & good fellow, if his Father can spare him. It seems to me that if I wait till the weather becomes settled steady cold that I can put on clothing & not feel the change so much as when the weather is more variable but I should not stop here longer just on account of the weather alone but for this [illegible] also & then if I wait till about the first of Dec the track will be laid through this div as far as the Ohio & Mississippi Road so that I can come all the way by Rail except 21 miles between St Louis & Alton which will be by Steamboat so that taking every thing into consideration it seems as if I had better wait till about the first or second week in Dec before I start if you can manage to get along comfortably till that time & I think likely if Walter concludes to go away sooner you can find somebody that can take care a few weeks. I feel in a hurry to get home but still I want to make out another month I want to be in two or three places at once I want to take a trip up into Iowa to see the country but I dont know as I shall if I dont this time I think I shall sometime make another trip out west for I have not seen much yet

3 oclock P M It has been raining hard most all the fore noon & rained considerable last night but it looks like clearing off now, the big rain cut unfavorably upon the big well which is in the process of being dug here they began it in August & 3 to 5 hands have been at work at it ever since it was began 13 ft in diameter & after getting 8 or 10 feet the water came in so that we had to rig a pump to keep it out & it began to cave in & kept caving in down where the water came in till it is now from 25 to 30 feet in diameter & they have began to wall it about 12 ft in diameter inside of the wall it is about 21 feet deep one of the greatest difficulties at present in this country is a sufficient supply of water to supply the Engines, though there is a plenty for ordinary purposes any on this prairie at the depth of 10 to 15 feet & very good water too though not quite like our spring water among the hills the water is much better here than in most of places where the country is level Isaac & Mitchell are both here now came last night Isaac has been gone up to Centralia most all the week they are putting up some large brick buildings there & they have got the track laid within 11 miles & they say from ½ to ¾ mile in a day in good weather

There have been within the past week quite a number of teams with families moveing to Kansas from Tennessee & places out east & south from here & the west is a great place but it is filling up fast & in one generation more they will have to go a great ways to find good vacant lands to be entered at government prices as fast as a railroad is located the land is entered immediately & some almost make fortunes by getting land

I dont know but I do wrong to elude to stepfather through the month of Nov I am afraid you will be bothered to get help on that it will incommode Walter to step, but it seems as if Charles Livermon or somebody might be hired but I cant hardly think who & it seems as if I ought to improve this opportunity while I have it, as the like cant often occur. tis true it seems sometime to look a head 5 or 6 weeks but the weeks soon slip away and it seems but a little part time to look back after it is past, Little Mary says "Papa coming home" I suppose she has about as much idea about Papa as a parrot does that is learned to say to every body that comes along "pretty Polly" but I want to see her as well as Charlie & Jessie & are other one that lives there about I received the invitation through your letter to attend the Musical convention of Piscataquis county at Dover on the 17th Oct I should have been very happy to attend but it is not convenient perhaps Bill Foss will be there

I have written so much every week that does not seem to be much to write that is worth reading & I suppose half I have written might as well or better been left blank paper

You say Charlie grows a big boy I hope he grows good as fast as he does large & learns to read too as well as to be good & Jessie also & little Mary likewise Your Own

Charles

Owego Station Oct 29th 1854

My Dear Wife I suppose from my not receiving a letter from you last week that you are expecting me home sooner than I anticipate starting though when you get my last letter you probably will not look for me till about the first of Dec & if you can get help so as to get along comfortably I may not start from here till after the first of Dec. I do begin to feel in some hurry to get home but still (taking all into consideration) the circumstances here as well as there, I think, (if you can get somebody a month or so (if Walter goes away before the last of Nov.) I think perhaps I had better stop till the last of Nov or first of Dec. We had a letter from Lucy & Mother yesterday giving us an account of the operation upon Mr Rider's cancer &c. it must have been an extremely painful operation but that is not the worst of it there is the perpetual inconvenience & disfiguration, besides the possibility if not the probability of its having to be repeated it is really melancholly to think of I am very glad to hear that little Gracie is really getting better after so long a sickness Lucy wrote that he was eating three quarters of the time and was teasing for something to eat the rest of the time. I was considerably afraid one while that he would not get well again

Mother: what I had they were expecting Charles down every Mayor Day but it seem to me that as I am coming home so soon that perhaps he had better not go till after I get home & we can all go together which would be much better

There was a very sad accident happened to the construction train on this Division (the 2nd Div. Ill Central Rail Road). last Thursday (the 26th Oct) The Engine in shoveing up some empty cars just after dark they ran over a cow which was laying on the track or going on the track and the Engine 4 or 5 cars were thrown off from the track and three men thrown from the Cars & ran over and killed instantly very much mutilated and another, the break-men belonging to the train was so much injured that he lived only about two days, died yesterday 4 or 5 more were slightly injured but not seriously the accident happened only about 3 miles from here they sent back to Dubuque for help & Doctors &c and we had to unload & pry up two cars to get the men out from under the wheels. It looked bad enough to see the beautiful new engine, that cost about 10,000 dollars, thrown from the track down the bank eight or ten feet into the ditch & stove up into a complete wreck & 4 or 5 cars knocked to peices turned over & scattered about for rods but worse still to see three or four dead men lying under the wheels of as many cars with about every leg & arm broken & some severed entirely off it looked indeed horrible, Any such accident that happens near by people think of but they think little of the tens & hundreds of thousands that are killed in battle so far off, & some less still of, not only the thousands that are killed by Intemperance but of the tens of thousands who are made to suffer more than death by the liquor selling

I suppose Mr Mitchel have had an unusual amount of business to see to for a week or two past they. the track layers were hurrying their work along just as fast as possible & the small engine got out of repair so that the big one had to do the work of both of them which was the cause of its having to run some in the evening and the big muddy bridge was just about being completed &c but they have got the wreck cleared off the track & the small engine repaired & went up with a load of iron yesterday so that the track layers will not be detained in consequence of the accident more than two days & the bridge at Big Muddy will be ready to cross in two or three days more when the Engines from the first Div. can come up with Iron from Cairo & go to the end of track

Mr Mitchel was on the train & on the forward car at the time of the accident & barely escaped by jumping from the car, after the engine had knocked off Two cars and just as it struck on the forward car which it crushed down but in consequence sheered off to one side & landed head first down the bank, the ditch & buried it self 4 or 5 feet into the earth Mr Mitchel did not get much injured but the jar or shock of jumping bruised his stomach & shoulder some but I guess nothing very serious It is a tremendous power that these great engines have but still it is completely under the control of the engineer he can let on or shut off steam instantly with much or little as he pleases can move

along as slow & easy as he has a mind to
& can stop almost to within a foot of where he intends
but when they have got on speed with an engine
of 20 to 25 tons ~~so tons~~ with perhaps from 50 to 500
tons on from 5 to 40 cars following at the rate
of from 20 to 40 miles an hour. they cannot stop
in a minute & if they could they would go a half
mile whilst
I am afraid I shall put you to too much trouble
anxiety & inconvenience by stopping here till
the first of Dec & I. dont know as I do right to
stop so long though it is plain to me that I
had better provided you can get along comfortably
so long. You will probably get this the 8th
or 10th of Nov & if there is any specially
urgent reason for my coming sooner than I
have contemplated you can inform me in an-
swer to this & if it is necessary I can start right
home after receiving your answer to this, which
which would probably be sometime in the third
week ~~of Nov~~, but if there is, or should be no
in particular reason for my hurrying home
I might perhaps stay one or two weeks longer
I dont want you to be so confidently expecting me at
any particular time as to be disappointed badly at my not
coming for it may be so that I cannot tell long
before hand when I shall start & if I should propose
to start at any particular time something might
happen to prevent, but I shall let you know as
long before I start as I can but still, there might
something turn up that might occasion more delay

Ever Yours Charles

Ducoign Station Nov 3d 1854

My Dear Wife

As I am here all alone to-night, Isaac being gone up to Centralia I think I will begin a letter to you in anticipation of receiving one from you tomorow but I dont know but you will be calculating upon my comeing home about this time and therefore not write and I may get disappointed again tomorrow, but I believe I told you that I would give you timely warning of my comeing, so that you need not be in danger of loseing your paper and besides if you should happen to send a letter after I shall have started home, Isaac could read it and it would cost him only the time which he would spend in reading it which would not be much To day has been a chilly & almost rainy though it has not rained any but it is <u>so</u> cold & damp & we <u>almost</u> need a fire in the office in the evening, we have not got our stove moved & set up yet but we shall have to have one set up soon if it is comeing such wintry weather. I suppose that it would not be strange if you have some blustering snow storms about this time, I think of you every day, and dont know as I ought to have stoped so long, but then, again, it seems

that if Walter decides to go away before the first of Dec that there would be somebody that he or you could get that could take care of the things a few weeks. I dont allow myself to worry about any thing, for it is of no use to worry about what we cant help & if we can help it, it is better to help it than to worry about it but I believe I come as near worrying about how you will get along this month as ever I did about any thing but I suppose that you have got wood enough, at least, for the present in the shed & barn room enough for what little stock we have got & probably Walter has got every thing fixed up as well as I should have done if I had come home in October and it seems as if I could really do my family more good by staying here three or four weeks longer than by coming home in October I should not wonder if we should have a year or two of pretty dull times about getting money the hard times & scarcity of money will be likely to put a check upon railroad building in part and also almost every other kind of business which which has been unusually active for a year or two past. I suppose that you count every day till I get home, & so do I but you must keep up good courage three or four weeks will soon slip away & it will seem but as a dream when it is past and I get home again. It is getting to be most bed time so I'll quit for to night & go to bed I have got plenty of blanket but no wife to sleep with

Sabbath Day Nov 5th 4 o'clock P.M. It was quite a cold frosty morning this morning and I was forced to stay up to the Boarding house till most noon before it got warm enough in the Office to set & write by the heat of the sun shining in at the open door on the south side
I have been writing a little to Mother & Lucy and to Anna, or Mrs Dr DeWitt, I suppose that it will be so cool here this evening without a fire that I suppose I shall not feel like writing much & I will scratch in a little more to this letter and send it along the next mail, I got disappointed again about getting a letter from you yesterday Perhaps you are expecting me home about this time & that is the reason you have not written this week but I believe I have not written any thing like comeing before the last of Nov or first of Dec & it seems to me that I had better stop 3 or 4 weeks more I cant do much in the short cold November days if I was there & I can get something by staying here more than you will be likely to have to pay for taking care of the things I know it would be convenient for me to be there a little while before winter sets in but if Walter should stop till about the first of Dec he can get things fixed up first rate well It is getting cool to my fingers [illegible] & still so I will not write any more now, we shall probably have a stove set up here before long when it will be more comfortable My love to Charlie & Josie & Mary tell them I shall home in a few weeks
Affectionately Your own C. H. W.

1854

Duncoign Station Nov 11th

My Dear Allina It has been very good comfortable weather for most a week past but we had quite a rain last night & it rained about half the day to day but cleared off colder this afternoon It was so cold this evening that I stayed at the house from supper time till ¼ of 8 o'clock (we not having any stove in the Office yet) so I lost so much time. I will just begin a letter to you though I shall not stop to write long for fear of getting too cold for comfort especially as I have no wife here to go to bed with & I have to keep myself warm with my blankets of which we have a plenty & a great pile, "to boot," Isaac bought a lot of Rowley Smith & Co when they closed up their business after finishing the grading I am in hopes to get a letter from you tomorrow as I have not had any for two weeks past I suppose likely you have been expecting me home, & that is the reason why you have not written but I think your expectations have been founded more on your wishes & feelings than on the contents of my letter

I believe I wrote you that I though probable I should come sometime about the last of Nov or the first of Dec. I know that was not very definite but I could not tell exactly nor I cant yet probably I shall stop here about two weeks longer possibly three, I suppose that one or two weeks more or less can not make any very great different with for of course you have got some there to take care of you & your he
But I feel that I am needed there to see to things especially if Walter has gone but I think likely that Walter is there & will stay till I come home & I hope he can without much inconvenience.
The thermometer has risen two degrees since I began to write just by the warmth of two candles burning in the office it is now at 18 degrees & it has got to be most nine o'clock & as I dont know as I have any thing more in particular to write now I suppose I had better be getting up to bed I dont like this living without a wife very well "It is not good that man should be alone" he needs a "help meat for him"
If I get a letter from you tomorrow I shall probably have something more to write sunday & will then fill up this sheet & send it along
If I was at home I know I should not have to go to bed alone to night — Good good night

Sunday one o'clock P.M. We have had a regular "down East" snow storm & blow to day & last night the snow is as much as one inch deep & so cold that we were all glad to hover round the little coal stove in the sitting room of the boarding house but after getting my dinner & the storm abating somewhat & the sun peering through the clouds occasionally I concluded to come down to the Office & try to scratch in a little more to my letter so as to have it ready to send out tomorrow,
It is so cold here that I cant stop to write much but by putting on an over coat I guess I can stand it to write what little I can find to say this time, not having any letter as I was in hopes to & having already written two letters since I have received any from you I dont seem to have any facts & data to to furnish the material for concocting any thing new. If the cold weather comes on as sudden & violent there "according to" as it does here I am afraid you will have a hard time of it to keep comfortable, but if I was there I dont suppose I could alter the weather any or make it any warmer though perhaps I might keep it from striking you so much at night while you are in bed, The fact is I do keep thinking of you and almost feel

uneasy about you & in a hurry to get home
but then I think of course you have got Walter
there or if he has gone away you have somebody
else to take care & two or three weeks longer
wont make much odds & I can't do much
at home to any profit & I am needed here
a week or two more though as far as that
is concerned I could leave any time but after
all the maine thing that keeps me here is
the money that I shall get for hay & I want to
"put in" the month, I think I had better
stop two weeks more & it is possible I may
have till the first week in Dec it will depend
some upon the weather & how we get along
My fingers & toes too are getting cold
& I must go up to the house & warm
I will bring Charlie an axe when I come
home & perhaps your too I suppose Charles has
grown so large that he can chop wood if
he has a good little axe considerable & get his
kindle wood ready every night & perhaps
get up in the morning and kindle a fire,
but I shall soon come home & then I can
see what good boys I have got, & little
Mary can see "pa pa has come home"

Your Affectionate Husband

C W Rich

Sweetgrass Station Nov 19th 1864

My Dear Wife

I will just write a few lines to keep your courage up for a few days longer you will not probably have the pleasure of receiving more than one more letter from me before I shall be there in person I should like very much to be at home at Thanksgiving on the 30th also but suppose that I shall not get farther than Edgefield I shall probably stop with Anna over the Sabbath but whether I shall get along so as to get home on the Friday or on Saturday following or not till the next Monday (ie the 11th of Dec) it is hardly possible I may come a little sooner but not probable (let me see—one—two—three weeks before I get home, it seems rather a long time but after you get this letter it will not be so long for you, it will be but little more than one week after you get this and that "won't be much," I have got letter from Sanger yesterday they write that Charlie came down the Saturday before all the way alone in the stage, no other passenger, a touch & four

with a driver all to himself. I should have thought it would have shook him about some he not being heavy enough to keep the car very steady.

It is quite pleasant to day though rather cool the thermometer at 36 in the Freight house yesterday it was rainy & cloudy & almost snow all day. Isaac came home yesterday had been up at Centralia 3 or 4 days they have had a very nice passenger car with the train for the last two or three trips, the track is completed as far as the crossing of the Ohio & Mississippi now & the Passenger trains will commence running regularly this week & carry Passengers from Cairo to St Louis in connection with the Ohio & Mississippi R. Road & probably a great part of the river travel will eventually come this route especially when the rest of the road is completed so that they can run direct to Galena & Chicago. I have not taken this letter writing, up to the boarding house to do it by the fire but I can't write so well among folks as alone so I have come down to the Office this afternoon & Open the south door to let the sun in & am writing by the warmth of the sun but it ain't so very warm though for my fingers are some cold I don't lay the stove & read all this forenoon & I shall have to go back & warm by'm. I finish my letter

7 o'clock P.M. I find it much more comfortable sitting by the stove in the boarding house than writing in the cold Office without a fire & that together with the fact that I have had no letter from you for 3 or 4 weeks is my reason for writing so little. I dont know any-thing how you are getting along or what trouble I am afraid you will be bothered some if Walter does not stay till I get home but I trust that you have got somebody if he has gone. I suppose likely that Charlie will want to come home with me when I come but I dont know what is best to do about it can tell better when I get to Bangor Now I may have got the track laid on his Div I suppose he will wind up his business on this road before a great while & not stop to complete all the buildings he will probably get away from here sometime in January & then he can go & see his wife too It is rather hard times when cold weather first comes on, not to have a Wife to go to bed to, nor to fix one's clothes &c I shall not stop to write much to night for the reason above stated but thought I would just run down here & finish off my letter so as to have it ready to send with Isaac

letter tomorrow as he usually is when he is here
Soon an express up to Mt Hawkins P O
where there is a Mail three times a week
the most of his letters come directed to that
Office now, I suppose as soon as the road
here is completed through they will probably
have the P.O. removed from Old Sumpain to
Sumpain Station and have a mail every day
in fact the business people too will soon
mostly move from Old Sumpain to the Station
for the sake of being on the R Road
My fingers are getting cold again & so I
will quit & go up in the warm before going
to bed as it is most 8 o'clock here &
about 1½ hours later at Milo so it is
about bed time for you so you may
go to bed & not wait for me & I will
go up and warm me first & then I will
come back & go to bed up in this big-
bedroom. So good night, good night

From your own

Affectionate Husband

C. W. Tuck

1854

Cairo Station Thursday Eve Nov 23d

My Dear Albina

I received your letter of the 5th this afternoon, was glad enough to get it for it is almost a week since I have received one dated 6th Ilk Anne has gone up to Centralia to day, went down South yesterday. he is not at home much more than half the time lately,

The Passenger train with very nice new & handsome Passenger Cars commenced running their regular trips from Cairo over the first & second Division 118 miles to connect with the Ohio & Mississippi R Road to St Louis so we can go from here to St Louis in about 5 hours It seems quite good to have regular Passenger trains going by every day especially when one has been so long engaged in the preparatory work, I suppose it will be only about a month before the Galena branch will be completed so that the cars will run from Cairo direct to Galena I dont know but I shall like it better there to content myself to live in such an out of the way & such a cold frozen country, as Mile is, after experiencing the advantages of Rail way communication, the fact is people who do not live near a Rail Road do not realize the advantages of living on one of the

It is quite rainy to night, it has rained all the after noon though it is not cold the thermometer is up to 58° there has xxx been but few frosty mornings yet, there is not usually but little cold weather before Dec

I should like very much to be at home with you at Thanksgiving, "this day week," but am thought about it long ago but concluded I had better stop till the first of Dec. & then perhaps I may get home in 10 days or there abouts,

It seems you have pretty good comfortable times there all alone with Walter, I dont know but that if I was to be gone a little longer (& you had somebody else husband to live with) you might forget all about me but if you would not the Citizen would I am glad Walter has concluded to stop there till I come home I have been some afraid that if he went away before I came home you might be troubled some about getting help I think that in about one week after you get this you may begin to expect to see me round about there somewhere but still it would not be any thing very strange if I should not get there so soon by a week or two.

I want to see home, or rather some persons who are there I count the days every night It is 8½ o'clock here now & at Mile so I suppose you are a bed & asleep so it is of no use for me to talk with you any more to night so I think I'll stop perhaps I may think of something more to write Sunday, or I shall not write till Monday

Sunday Nov 20th 11 A.M. It is quite a cold morn for this time of the year the Thermometer is down to 28° so the pump froze up & we had to thaw it out with hot water it has 3 or 4 times before this fall. There is a party gone up to day with the Mogul, (the little old engine that has been here so long) to haul the No 22, ie the engine which got stove to pieces at the time of the accident which I believe I wrote you about, she has been righted up temporary timbers put under her ready to haul on to the track but while the trains were running by every day they could have no chance to get her on so they have to take Thursday for it position the trains are not running they will have to take her up to the repair shop to be fixed up again

We had a letter from Mother & Lucy yesterday dated Nov 14th they write that Percie has got about well. Lucy was not quite so well as usual she had "a verdict" she gets too much fatigued before she is aware of it sometimes Mother wrote that Charlie was a good boy but wanted something to do all the time — "take care of the cow entirely does errands & every thing we can find for him to do is gone now down to Cumberland Street to his Uncle Elias of an errand I think it will do him good to be there some occasionally then are so regular & withall, judicious & he would naturally try to behave himself more than he would at home & if he could make himself useful to them they would like to have him there perhaps occasionally when he gets a little older

2½ Oclock P.M. Have but just been to dinner had Venison & chicken. Deer are quite plenty about here people frequently bring them in here to sell we have venison almost every day & frequently Turkeys or Chickens. live very well. It has been almost snowing ever since morning I dont know but there will be enough to cover the ground yet. We have got a stove set up in the Passenger house & Isaac has moved his writing desk over there but I am writing in the Office I had rather write alone a little while at a time I have not much more to write now & probably the next communication I make with you will be by the word & mouth. . The Medford has just got back with the No 22 they will leave her on the side track ready to be taken to the repair shop they calculate it will cost about 5,000 dollars to fix her up again but probably come to get her to peices it wont be so much My calculation now is to spend the next sabbath i.e. the first sabbath in Dec in Ohio after which I shall be wending my way home shall probably get to Bangor at least sometime in the course of the next week i.e by the 8th or 9th of Dec. It is getting rather cold finger, so I guess I'll not write any more now as I have not much more to say not more to say at so good bye till I see you & the Children too

Your Affectionate Husband

C W Pinch

Sunday Evening 7½ Oclock. I dont know as I have any thing more very particularly nice instructive or interesting to add to my letter but still I feel an inclination to write a few lines more, I believe the longer I stay from home the more I think of you & therefore I shall not be likely to get weaned very soon. I have been thinking over how long it would probably be before you would get this letter & I should get an answer to it, you will probably get this about the 20th or 22nd of Sept & then I shall likely enough get an answer some time in the first week of October by that time I suppose that you will be almost beginning to freese up. I hope Walter can stay till he gets the harvesting well done I dont know why he cannot stay there all winter if I do come home (we) if he chooses to unless he can be more conveniently situated somewhere else it is immaterial with me he can do as he chooses if you can agree. I dont know whether those Oxen are bought or taken to keep in either case I want Walter to see to them. I hope you will not have to keep them very long in the winter perhaps you can get up some wood with them if you can get any, hemlock logs or something almost any thing if it is dry is better than nothing to make a fire of in cold weather

you can talk things over with Walter & see how you can manage things & write me particularly so that I can make up my conclusion when to come home, set aside feelings about it and go for expediency every day that I stop here if I am well I receive pay but when I go home my pay stops, to be sure after I get home we shall not probably have to pay out so much for labor but then I can't do much there to earn any thing I may save a sixpence, now & then. I dont suppose I shall be worth much to brush round in the cold after wood when I do come home so I want some got up if you can conveni-ently perhaps we shall have to buy some
I want you to remember & send me an estimate of out standing bills to be paid when I get home so that I can know how much longer I shall have to stop to earn the money for it, I dont know as I have heard any thing about how much pro-duce of any kind you are likely to raise — whether you will pretty near enough to live on through the winter or whether we shall to buy most all, I want to know a good many things
It wants 15 minutes of nine o'clock I suppose it is about 10 at Milo & you are probably gone to bed or perhaps you are now writing but most probably youre in bed thought not gone to sleep, but wishing me there with you, But I dont know what you want of me this time of night perhaps if I was there I could find out, I have got my sheet about full so Good night Charles

Sabbath Eve 8 o'clock The almost full moon shines in at the office door so bright & the mild gentle breeze from the south comes in so refreshing with the thermometer now standing at 70 that I have been sitting alone in the door nearly an hour thinking of my loved ones at home & in truth the day has seemed rather long, but, what with washing & reading & writing mending & thinking it has slipped away & I have hardly got as much done of either as I should like to have done. The fact is "Sarah true", it is rather tough to stay away from so long, you complain in your letter of being lonely there with all your children by you, & Walter & Sally for company & your Father's family close by but what do you think of me here almost alone among strangers. But it seems as if I ought to stay a while longer if you can comfortably get along without me. because I can earn so much more here than I can there & provisions will be high till after another year. The corn crop failing to so great an extent will probably effect the price of Pork, Beef & flour some & always when there is any thing like a scarcity the Speculators are generally ready enough to take the advantage of it.

I understand that wheat has been sold in St Louis as high as 1,25 to 1,50 pr. Bushel & corn

I suppose will almost learn to be a little Lady

which two or three months ago could have
could have been bought about here in almost
any quantity for 25 ct. a bushell now brings
,75 ct. in St Louis & the farmers are buying it
there to carry back into the country
I dont know but it will be a hard chance to get
water enough to supply the Engine with water
if it holds very much longer one well about
30 feet deep & 10 feet across it has failed they are
digging another 13 feet diameter in which the
water comes in "night-mare" & we have
just been building a great tub or cistern 12ft
in diameter & we raised a frame yesterday to set
it on so as to pump out what comes into the
well to feed the engine & they can still keep digging
One of the greatest difficulties in building Rail
Roads in this county is the getting a good sup-
ply of water for the engines, they have been
here now boreing for water down at De Soto have
already got down 380 feet or more & will likely
enough have to go as much farther there is
an Artesian well now boreing in St Louis
which I believe is the deepest in the world they
have now I understand got down 2500 feet with
a stream of water runing out with a force
sufficient to through 10 or 15 feet & they are still
boreing because the water is not of the right kind
they want pure water for a Sugar refinery
It has got to be 9½ Oclock here about ½ to 11 at Mills
& I suppose you are stretched on the bed asleep before
this time & so I will going to bed too Your Own Charley.

I expect Charley will get to be quite a smart scholar before I get
home to see him & will be quite a man & then if he is a good boy &
learns to read too & little Mary

Office of Div Engineer of Mich. D. Ken. I. C. R. R. Co.

Du Quoin Sabbath Evening 7 o'clock P.M.

I have been here enjoying my own company most of the time to day did not go to meeting to day, have written a letter to Anne & to your Father & you will get your share when you get this. It snowed till about noon & by that time there was no snow to be seen but it is hardly cleared off yet but I think it will by morning it has rained but little this afternoon Samuel came over this afternoon & wrote a letter to his folks and has gone back again to our boarding place at the station. I have been thinking about the time that it is best for me to fix for coming home but I cannot yet determine about it. It seems as though there might be somebody found that could just do what little must be done in the way of securing the fences &c & take care of the things and perhaps put some seed into the ground if I should come home early in the spring I could not accomplish any great things without hiring help & besides the actual proffit of farming in that cold country is of no very great account any how: And again it is now 20 days since I have heard from you although I received your letter last night (from the 27 of March to the 16th of April) and perhaps by this time it has become warm weather the snow most gone & your Old Man come back so that you wont want me to stay

Tell Charlie & Josie that when I am the trees are green & full of blossoms & it has been warm weather for a good many days but I suppose that by the time they receive this letter I will have been with them & I hope the things are good boys and learn to read well

Antoinette had quite an ill turn some 3 or 4 weeks
ago as I believe I wrote you I felt somewhat
concerned for her she was quite sick a week or two
but she has got better now is quite smart she
has rode out as far as the Station (4 miles) 2 or
three times and appears to be gaining strength
& I think she will get along & I am in hopes
will be able to perform the journey east by
the fore part of May. Isaac thinks now of starting
the first week in May & going himself as far
as N.H. & coming right back. I suppose it will
be necessary for him to be back within the month
of May, & he wants me to stop till he gets back
& I suppose if such arrangements can be made that
I can consistently leave home so long that it
will be best for me to stop.
I hope to hear by another week that you have
weathered the storm, and are getting along better
but you must have a man or big boy there,
Your Father wrote that he would give 100$ for the
colt though he was in no hurry about buying a
horse as he was a going to buy Oxen and had not keeping
for both I have thought of selling the gray colt
after the others got big enough to do our work
but I dont want to sell him sooner I have no
doubt by that time if he does not get hurt he
will fetch 150$. It is most time for me to be
going up to the house & so I will do up my letters
& of course I shall stop writing Yours C. W. Rich

I have been to Meeting this afternoon heard Mr Hoss
a former Minister of this place, Subject upon the
Bible he a pretty good discourse not very lengthy
Mr Smith & Gutchell have gone up to the house &
so I thought I would come down & write a little
more though I Dont know as I have much of any thing
to write but I have such a convenient chance here
for writing that I "sorter" wanted to write more
If Mother is there it seems as though you might
between you both send me a letter most every week
It appears to me that if you think of it a little you
must come to the conclusion that I should like
considerable well to hear from you once in a
while; if not oftener
I think Illinois is destined to be a very rich
State though it is somewhat in debt now there is
a direct Special Tax of 2 mills on a Dollar for the
purpose of paying the debts there is hardly any
really want land the poorest being about as good
as the good land at the east from what I can learn
the more Northern portion of the State is rather
the best land but except in the extreem north
part of it is no more healthy than about here
I conclude that the richest lands are as a general
thing most unhealthy especially on the river
Bottoms & where the water over flows & stands and
stagnates, and a great cause of the unhealthiness is

the country being so flat that the water does not run off freely but settles into the low places but the soil is of such a nature that it does not settle down far into it but remains untill it drys away when the land becomes more cultivated & drained I think this will not be an unhealthy country
I have not been about the country any and when I came I came so quick and so much of the way by night that I have had not much opportunity to see it but it is a great country but the principal feature and what strikes a person most is its vastness & so level a New Englander can hardly conceive of such an extension of ~~flat~~ level country almost one continued level plain comparatively for perhaps thousands of miles especially towards the Rocky Mountains
Wm Macelvanes where I board has been to California by land get home last fall he went in company with some others with horses & wagons clear through just think of starting off through an unsettled country for more than a thousand miles and they find grass for their animals about all the way
It is so dark that I cannot see I am writing by guess I believe I'll not stop any longer but call it done and go up to the house and spend the evening so good by C W Tuck

If you can make or give trade there for oats we can winter, and I think likely you could and I could Connecticut Town of Plant Down and get them to the mill to my account on shares I had just as lief you would get what you want if he was willing to want to sell I would buy him which if I cannot do by making a turn of the Cows the Oxen will be worth more in the spring. I must do by making a turn of the Cows the Oxen will be worth more in the spring. I have considerable of Oats & Peas of some thing to spare

[illegible] I intend [illegible] my mind to carry the Oats & Peas I put up at the barn on there now, and the Oxen came home yesterday [illegible] I saw the man that used them said they had given them 2½ bushels of Oats & Peas and as my hay is [illegible] they ought to have meal for some time if not through the spring. The prospect is that Potatoes will sell [illegible] there are nothing. 2/ now in Bangor I understand. probable they will be higher after the river opens. I think it would be better to carry Potatoes to Bangor even for 2/ per bush and feed Oats & Peas to the Oxen than to haul the Oats & Peas up there and have nothing but Potatoes for the Oxen to work hauling Lumber & spring work. The Town have raised $550 to build the road up river and accepted [illegible] but by the selectmen some time ago [illegible] to here to the north side of Davis hill and appointed me agent for laying out the road to do that I do not see but I shall be obliged to [illegible] this summer for I must finish the house so that we can move into it before haying.

I think if you can conveniently you had better pay Briggs his $50 on each and I will replace it in May if you should want it I calculate to hire one or two loads of Potatoes hauled to Bangor after the river opens

The People in this town are so well pleased with Ruff Balls that they put Chadburn in one of the Selectmen Tenney & Fillridge the other and Chadburn & Tenney came on the Track the other Sunday Selectmen Committee Chadburn talked of buying Mr Hees store and paying there part in Oats & Peas which he was agreeing to have of them for 1¼ cents a pound and pay in June but I believe they do not trade. About going to Browns to get cloth on credit I do not know hardly what to say we have got all our last years wool worked up by the yard and I am now owing him about 30 dollars for manufacturing and he expects his pay last winter or this spring but I dont see as I can pay any before the wool comes off I dont suppose he would refuse to trust any more though I suppose he would rather

P W Rich

C. W. Rich
March 14th 1844
Melo

Mr Isaac S. Metcalf
Saxtons Riv. Me

If you cannot conveniently buy Briggs send me a line soon and I will get it at the Opt. & Pea

Saxtons
March 16th

Milo March 26th 1844

As Mr Sargent is going to Dover tomorrow I will just write a line though I have not much to write about I suppose you received a line from me a week ago or more I wrote you that I thought it better to send potatoes to Bangor to make out the money than to send up the Cats & Sea. Potatoes are likely to fetch a good price this spring I intend to haul a number of loads to Bangor after the river opens James is a going to start for Bangor to morrow with hay & shingles &c got Gladmans horse

I cannot put up the work inside of the house till the ground settles on account of the frost which has hove ~~the floor~~ it some Gilman has quit till the ground settles which will give me time to clap board & paint outside Mr Keen has sold his lot down river for 90, dollars in one year & bought a log house place in Atkinson where we got logs and is a going to move right over there in a day or two

If you have not already I think you had better buy Briggs and get his receipt perhaps you could get it for 5; for Fox effects will fall considerable short of paying his debts you can send it down by Mr Sargent I will get the money for you again as soon as you will want it. I think I shall write to Mother soon Lucy if you have any thing you want to say to her begin a letter and send it down by Mr Sargent and I will finish it &c &c

G. H. Rich
Nice
March 1844

Mr Isaac Mclean
Foxcraft

Mch 25

Dear Brother Mile Sept 7th 1851

I received your letter of Augt for which we are much obliged, glad you have found such good business, but you must be careful of your health, I received a letter from Mother at Bangor & one from Eliab last mail Samuel has ban quite sick, but is better, has gone with Lucy down among the Islands to smell the salt water and gain Strength Eliab has just got back from a six weeks Tour through some of the western States visited Niagara &c, I suppose he has written to you of his Journey, he said he had got his moneys worth of health twice its worth of knowledge and all the fun & pleasure throwin in, If that is the case I think he has made a pretty good investment The Season has been rather cold this summer but few warm days, Corn is very backward, but just full in the milk some of it beginning to turn a little most people think we shall not have much corn unless the Frost holds off later than usual Wheat & Oats are generally very good hay came in well but Potatoes are rotting considerably My Wheat on the Intervale is very stout, stands about as high as my shoulders, appears to be pretty well filled; but it is so full of that Mint, weed

if I can get some made & shall get them then
that I concluded to mow it, cut it yesterday it now
lays in the swathe, the spring wheat up in the
field was almost destroyed by the worms in
the spring but the Oats among it branched out
& grew stout so that it is apparently more than
half Oats, The Winter wheat though very thin grew
beyond my expectations headed out well and bid
fair a few days before I cut it to be heavy wheat
but the rust took it all at once and killed it so
that it is badly pinched there was about 30 stukes
which I carried down to the mills the other day and
had threshed with the machine and had
pretty good wheat
The first part of the season was very wet so that
we hardly had a chance to hoe the corn but since
about the middle of July it has been very dry
our well & most all the little brooks are dry
Within a few days it has been very warm thermometer
stood yesterday & today at 92 in the shade
Sept 10th It holds dry & warm yet but I am some afraid I
shall not be able to get in all my stuff before it comes wet
I have got 2 loads seed hay 4 or 5 loads Oats & both pieces
of wheat all in the cock 2 or 3 Acres more of Oats
partly mowed which I must finish before I can stop to
get any in my wheat if it holds dry I think I shall
carry down to the Mill and get threshed before I put
it in the barn, It is so seldom I take hold of
a pen that it is a slow job for me to write & you
must not expect me to write much but you can write being
in the habit of it with very little trouble and you must write often C.M.R.

I have not got the grass blown from Bangor yet but
expect to go down with some things after hoeing

September. 9. 1851.

Dear Sister

As Charles has not filled this letter it seems to have opened an opportunity for me to write a few words to you, for the first time. Well what shall I say. I suppose you would like to hear about our doings and actions here at home would you not? Josie is geting to be a great boy that is to say busy. She is nine months old has sit alone this three months creeps a little but does not seem to be much inclined to creep. tries to get up by chairs did get up by Charlies chair when he was sitting in it the other day and it pleased her very much, she cried out in a most lusty, exulting, Charlie is a very good little boy sits still in meeting &c. When he can go down into the field and help Father get a load of hay he thinks that he is "most big boy" he is very anxious to grow big so he can help his Father. Charlie has more than help him he works very hard sometimes does two days work in one. I do not like to have him work so hard I think that if we are diligent and industrious that is enough without wearying ourselves with fatigue and hard labor. However Charlie takes every thing just as it comes nothing frets nor worries him.

I do think I have got a good and kind companion for better than I am worthy of. You have of course heard that Mother is with Lucy this summer she went away the last of June. It looks very lonely.

Yours Truly Albina

Charles S. Albins Milo Maine
Pfsh 7-11-1857
Jonesboro Oct. 9.

P. S. Mitchell
Mt Hawkins
Perry Co
Illinois

In the mail

Milo Sept 21st 1851

Dear Brother

I found the enclosed letter from Alfred in milo Post Office last week which I took the liberty to open I will send it to you next mail.

I am cutting my corn a part of it is pretty good but we had a frost last week which injured a part of it some I was so busy about my Oats & buckwheat that I could not cut it quite so soon as it ought to have been cut

It is very dry no rain yet the water at the barn well is so low that it wont pump and we have to go to the spring for our water to drink

We had a letter from Mother & Lucy last they have been to Deer Island to get some health but did not get it Samuel took cold and was worse & Lucy in consequence of being worried & fatigued came back no better than she went but they write that Samuel has now a good appetite and is gaining strength fast Elial has gone to work at Brown & Sons again but has not engaged for any particular time

Hector & Joseph Sargent, Everett the Lawyer Col Mitchell and his Oldest son and ever so many more from Sebec are going to California this fall So they say

Charles. Milo, Maine

Oct. 21. 1857

Jonesboro Oct. 18 1857.

Charles Feb. 1-12 Milo Maine

Jonesboro March 7. 1852 Milo Feb 1 1852

Dear Brother Isaac

I received yours of Dec 8th am much obliged to you for it. we are all well and plodding along as usual There is a Universalist meeting at the Hall to day we don't go, so I thought I would try to write a line to you which I have been thinking of doing for a long time, the Universalist have had a two days meeting in Milo last week, great time I suppose, they occupy the Hall half the time or pretend to Mr Partridge preaches half the time there is no other preaching at present expect there will be Baptist part of the time by & by Mr Partridge has had a new year present of a young Partridge, a daughter. we have a real snow storm to day as usual it has snowed or blowed almost every day since the midle of Dec the snow is 3 or 4 ft deep now we have had a very severe winter here so far I swamped a road & made tracks in to the wood where we got wood last winter took a circuit a little farther west by 10 or 12 large trees and have just made out to go in often enough to keep my road broke but have not hauled a great deal yet. I hope we shall have a thaw soon and settle the snow down some. we are not quite out of dry wood yet. those big maple logs that we got up last winter stand by well I have got about half my Oats thrashed shall have 150 or 200 bush, the spring wheat which grew in the north field was almost destroyed by the worms

there was some Oats among it and the Oats branched out so that when I came to thresh it there was about ⅓ Oats there was about 12 or 15 tons which I use for provender There does not seem to be much sale for hay yet but if the winter holds out as it has began there may be a demand for it in the Spring

We have a singing school at the village this winter Taught by one Heath of Brownville, about the greatest bass singer that I ever heard I go for the sake of carrying Lucy & James. The People have not quite all gone California yet but they are most all going I believe about 25 states from this Town in vicinity to leave New York the 5th of Feb. Hector Sargent & Joseph Everett Abner Hoxey Elisha Cutts Wm Luce, John Hammon &c &c Old Mr Burnips talks of going in March, If they go from all parts of the U.S. as they do from about here California will be full more

What a man Kossuth is and what an excitement every where he goes my paper the Tribune is full of his speeches every week & he certainly has a remarkable tact for turning every thing into an argument in favor of his country & his doctrine of Intervention for Non Intervention It seems to be correct in theory but it is doubtful whether he can make the U.S. Government think it expedient to undertake to make the Russians stand back but it seems a hard case for the Hungarians if they are able to maintain their independance against Austria that they should be crushed by the power of Russia

President Bonipart of France seems to have succeeded in getting almost absolute Power in to his own hands

but it remains to be seen how long he will be able to keep it

Mother I suppose you know I went to Bangor about the Middle of Nov she carried Charlie down and he staid there about a week when Albina and I went down there after him and came back by the way of Exeter to visit Mr Cutter he is the same good clever fellow as ever he has bought the saw mill & shingle mill by him and has opened a store besides he is doing well I guess Lysander is a great portly looking fellow about as much taller than Mr Cutter as Mr Cutter is taller than I am and has the care of the store pretty much While there I heard from Mothers letter which she wrote to Gen Hodsdon in answer to a letter of enquiry concerning the school that she taught in Exeter when she was a girl (the first school ever taught in the Town I suppose likely that Lucy has told you before this time all about how that Mr David Barker of Exeter is getting up an early History of Exeter & in making enquiry concerning the first school ever taught in the Town Gen Hodsdon happened to find out that Miss Ann Stevens who taught the first school in Exeter, an old acquaintance of 1805, was now Mrs Metcalf of Milo & he volunteered to write to her to get the information which Mr Barker wanted and how afterwards called to see her in Bangor Well Mothers letter was shown all round as something almost wonderful as coming from the person who taught the first school it was examined by Greenleaf the great grammarian who was there teaching Grammar School and pronounced it to be one of the most perfect letters with regard to correct grammatical construction & elegance of composition which he had met with for a long time or that he ever saw

Feb 11 We have a fine rain to day there has been two or three attempts at a thaw within a few days which settled the snow some but to day it rains finely with a southerly wind which makes quite a sensible ~~impression~~ effect and I shall probably have a good time to haul up some wood but Picker has gone into the woods to work so that I spose I shall have to haul alone We have just heard that Wm Holman Alfreds brother is dead Died on his way to California Wm Shurtevant Jun also died on the way to California some time ago

Two young Cousins John & Ezekiel came home from the Gold diggins last fall with (it is said) eleven thousand dollars each they had been out there about two years and it set every body about here in a fever to go

We expect Samuel & Lucy here next week they talked of coming three weeks ago but the weather was not favorable I guess Samuel did pretty well with the Steam Mill last summer he bought out his partners when by he made 3 or 4 hundred dollars besides his wages and his share of the profits, I guess. I believe he has some prospect of getting an appointment as surveyor next season

I understand by your letter to Almeida that you some expect to come as far East as New York next Spring if you get so near as that you must try to find time to come here if it is only a short visit Charlie is a good little boy wants Uncle Isaac to come home Josie is trotting around the house as happy as a lark when things go right with him but turbulent enough if things dont suit

With Love &c C. W. Rich

Charles & Albina
Hilo, Apr 8d 1863
Dubuque Ill. April 8 1863

I can't know why I have not written
I now long ago almost ever since arriving
I have felt right – "well I must write I guess
but something occurs to prevent
But you know I never die write letters Mother
& Lucy were such many letters written that I
always expected upon them to do all the business
in that line now when they are gone away
I suppose I shall have to come to it or I am afraid
I shall not get many letters I see
We were very glad to receive another letter from
you & intended the other day hope you will write
as often as you can after time I know that
your time must be very much occupied with
your business one (if it was not for the fact
that you can sit down and write a letter in a
very short time) I could not ask many letters
from you but I will so write so that my letters
look like a school-boys first effort & when I
undertake to write a letter all I can think of is that
piece in the American first Years Book (Thought
on letter writing) "what shall I say you how short
how time hours I will your absence Dismiss
I believe it is a general time of that about here
I have had a pretty wet week which time I
expect while but I am getting rather

The people in this town are moving along about as usual — Everett has got back from Calyonia was sick almost all the time he was there he probably came home minus $ or 10 hundred dollars from what he went with We had a hard pull on Temperance this spring in our Town elections and got beat two votes so rum rules here another year some of our Temperance men were goin away into the woods. Our Division holds on firm yet few in number but united & strong. Mrs Cater came pretty near getting drowned yesterday she went onto the ice to pilot a girl across the river and dropt ~~in~~ through I heard what I thought was the noise of some children some minuti before I thought of any trouble she just made out to have me on to the ice till I got to her she was so much exhausted and chilled that she could not have held on much longer

My crops turned out tolerably well what little I had I raised about 50 bush corn 60 of Oats 150 taten I sold 3 cows killed one beef lost one colt & let S. M. Fuller have my Oxen to work in the woods so that I reduced my stock some I sold to Samuel 5½ Tons hay for about $ dollars I think I may have some more to spare. Hay is selling now for 16 to 18 a Ton Samuel and another man (Bradeen) have dist tube streaming considerable deep this winter they put in six tons & although Hay & Provisions are rather

high I guess they will make well lumber is likely to turn well, I understood Samuel that two of their teams had got in a million apiece about the middle of February which was what they estimated they would do for the winter the rest of their lums had not got quite up to their estimate at that time Samuel has taken the steem-mills again this year will probably saw part of his own logs

Apr 5 We have quite a smart rain yesterday & today the roads are mighty enough the sleighing has been gone about a week the fields begin to look bare & the robbins have come. The winter has been very mild and the snow not very deep we have not had to break roads but once this winter and that was not till the 20 of March

I got up a pretty good pile of wood before the Oxen went in to the woods Mr Henry Sargent cut it and I hauled two loads for my self and one for him I hauled some from the Interval & some from over the river

Part of my lambs came about a month sooner than I expected on account of other sheep getting with mine. I have lost 14 out of 30 lambs though I have had 7 pairs of twins

I have been breaking my 3 yr olds some they behave pretty well I have had Uncle Kimballs colt here 2 or 3 weeks to handle for him it is the most fiery high-strung an ugly colt that ever I had any thing to do with she is only 3 years old this spring but skittish and

contrary she will kick & rear & strike and try to act every way Albina is afraid that I shall get hurt but I am more afraid I shall get the colt hurt

The Meeting house is finished it is a neat pretty house cost about 15 hundred dollars the Pews are mostly sold the Free Will Baptists take one half of the house and controll one half, Mr Follet Preacher half the time Mr Gallison of Vergennes and there is occasional preaching by the Methodists in the remainder Mr Follett has moved into Town has bought Jesse Sumner's farm

Elick has met with quite a loss by two vessels that he owned a share in being wrecked or dismantled at sea I dont know how much they are damaged

He has gone now to Mass to be married will probably be at home some time in April I dont know what he will get for a wife I hope something besides a "blue Stocking" I saw her Daguerreotype I like the looks of her countenance as expressed in that very well

I have written from Hester Sargent a few days since he was well his mother also & the time says it is pretty [illegible]

Thursday Evening

[illegible]

I have just got my Ma
into washed and fed & bed and the baby I am
rocking in the cradle with my foot, two days a
[illegible] since we left the ship it [illegible] as
to [illegible] since I was last there we have had
rest and happiness [illegible] as many times since
you were here to [illegible] & I can hardly believe that
it was [illegible] and I cannot help crying
[illegible] & [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible] I [illegible] for [illegible]
[illegible] the next time I [illegible] the words
[illegible] "very dear" very [illegible]
that we [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] that is the way she writes [illegible] [illegible]
to her that he can be very easy Charles takes a great
deal of pleasure in her children & they [illegible]
are a very handsome & likely pair we can't [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
I suppose that you intend in Bangor and [illegible] Orlando
Mrs Ida was very much pleased [illegible] and I have [illegible]
to [illegible] this with Father & Mother and I [illegible] [illegible]
all went at the same time quite a party I left [illegible] with
Mrs Sargent I cannot go [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
and feel perfectly easy Mrs Sargent is a very good woman
I [illegible] not [illegible] I shall not object [illegible]
till the first of June I do not go out but a very little and
a word dear inquired I have not been down to [illegible] letters to
[illegible] but once since my babe was born finally I have not
been very well this month but have done my work with
[illegible] [illegible] of my [illegible] I hope [illegible] [illegible] the
[illegible] spring has come Spring is the pleasantest part
of the year [illegible] do not know weather I shall be able to get
away without a girl this summer or not Mrs Isaac [illegible]
[illegible] to stay for the summer I wish that you could both come
in I think this is a pleasant place in the summer I must write
more [illegible] [illegible] to me as often as you can for I love to
[illegible] [illegible] to fill your whole [illegible] writing [illegible] [illegible]

Hilo Maine
Charles William Aug 15, 1853
Lieut. 2d Lieut 13, 1853

August 15 1853.

Dear Father & Mother

I have so much to say
that I would like to be with you
I can tell you better
I am the time for great things. I am so
glad you begin to appreciate the intellectual
a better low I sometimes think that one is in
so much more of serious and solid pleasure and
and ~~enjoyment~~ at the same time energy and
perseverance as a better [illegible] have many
little things to try them & you not think
or perhaps you have not had the experience
yet. Notwithstanding all this there is a great
deal of happiness in the education of your
own to instruct and like one of our fondest
pleasures for then can they do for other children
I think that a mother has a great field to
work in — and it is a very important time
with my children they are at an age when
a mothers instructions are lasting & will be
future manual and the [illegible]

[illegible] write to each other
[illegible] I should not [illegible]
[illegible] I am [illegible] my Chil-
[illegible] I am learning
[illegible] I could to com[illegible]
[illegible] I
and talking about [illegible] near either one
one has just got [illegible] and you are telling him
[illegible] perhaps he has made a
new addition to [illegible] hands or a new sound
or something of the [illegible] Tell Aldi father and mother
[illegible] about their children
[illegible] the more I fix [illegible]
my mind. It is the wish of my whole soul
that they [illegible] children. I think that I
have a chance to see that they will for they are
pretty good children
[illegible] many cracks all over the house and walls
by taking [illegible] things. I wish that you and
Isaac could be here with us this summer it is so pleasant
for Charles sometimes [illegible] that he does not want
to [illegible] stay here when there are so few privileges
but I should not [illegible] to leave this place without
being aware of a [illegible] one I will leave the rest
for Charles to fill

Milo Aug 28 th 1853

Dear Brother Israel I have just received a letter from you dated Aug 13th am much obliged to you for it Mother is at Bangor now I suppose she will start with Ann for Mass soon they want I should go to come home with her but I dont know as I can afford the time or money I did think some of going to Mass, and to New York but I have most concluded to give it up. I should like to go very much and take a trip off by Erie Rail Road and go to Penn & Ill and round by the Lakes & Niagara falls &c but if I stay at home & sell off my stock & buy &c I can get out of debt this fall It is a good time now to sell stock & buy &c now and pay off debts but if I spend my money and then there comes a turn of times & money scarce it will be hard paying debts, I have thought some of late of selling my farm for what I could and locating myself somewhere else I believe Samuel & Elias are rather inclined to think that I had better I ought to conclude one way or the other soon I should hate to leave this farm, where I have been so long & I should have but little left to purchase with after paying my debts out of what little I could sell it for but perhaps I should be better off in a few years to go somewhere where I should not have to pay 3, 4, or 5 per cent Taxes every year I wish you would tell me whether I had better sell off all my stock & buy &c and raise 2, 3, or 4 hundred dollars and send to you to invest for me

you are unlucky in loosing your good old White
are horses more liable to disseases in that
counting than here, I have sold Tilly for
$135, but as horses are going about here she
was worth more, Mr Gilman is here finishing
the chamber I have to give him 1,50 pr day and
of course he dont work near so hard as he did
for a dollar a day, they came in but little
better than last year I expect it will sell for
14 or 15 Dolls pr Ton pressed, Stock is pretty
high too, I have only 2 or 3 Acres of Oats,
Corn will be pretty good if the frost holds off
till it is ripe I have not heard of Potatoes
being effected with rot yet, My corn is
just about full in the milk
I suppose that Elaab has written to you
that he & Samuel have been buying some
timber land in Pennsylvania, If I was
going from Milo I don't know but that
would be a good place to go
Theodore Tinker has been here this summer
he takes that he makes $1000, a year off
his farm besides supporting his family
that is a little different from scrubbing as
hard as you can to make about enough to
pay the Taxes although farming is much
better here now than it has been for years
past All well, but children have been
most sick with Diarrhoea Yours &c
E W Rich

Milo Oct 14, 1841

Albina

Dunbarton Oct 24, 1841.

[illegible]

[illegible] night and [illegible]
[illegible] and [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [

[illegible] Charlie sits by my side looking at the pictures in the book you gave him. Walter sits by the stove thinking — how still it seems after the children have gone to bed. I think our children are more noisy than most. Then they are never still — always doing something. I have been thinking since I put them to bed tonight — in much patience, wisdom, firmness and kindness a mother needs to possess, to govern her children as she should. But I find that if I keep myself completely governed it is much easier to govern my children. What a great feat it is to govern oneself at all times — and on all occasions, do you not think so? I suppose you have read "Mason on Self Knowledge" have you not? It is a good book isn't it. I never read a book that showed me how to look into myself as that has.

How much I need to watch and pray. I sometimes get a discouraged feeling. There is so much sin in my heart of every description. But I can keep trying — and keep praying. We have the promise that if we ask aright — we shall receive.

Charlie has now gone to bed. I asked him what I should say to Aunt Hattie. "Tell her to come here as soon as she can and bring her baby to see us"

I shall expect you will come this winter — after Isaac goes through at Illinois — and stay a long time with Isaac

with you —

[illegible] But have just got done sitting my mind at ease this — I am a going to make some mince pies tomorrow. wish that I was there to help eat them when you have any thing good don't you wish Isaac had some too — I have been cleaning house today, yesterday — & to-day — tomorrow I am a going to cook & cooking, will be the order of the day. I must now expect Amanda and Mr Rider to-morrow — they have gone to Bangor. She has gone to see the Doctor about his sore lip — Doc Kimball told him that he thought it was a cancer — if so he thought perhaps he should have it cut out — and I fear he is having it cut out. For they went down on Friday [illegible] this will [illegible] Charles [illegible] Amanda & Mr Rider. Amanda has not been very well expect they went home today — when they left here they thought he was better Mr Rider has had it cut out. I had a letter from Father last week — she said they would not go down till the first of Feb. I have not heard from Malden — expect some too — Mother said that the operation was very painful — to be expected I suppose.

Charlie does not say a word in his letter — is waiting to hear from me. [illegible]

Elyria Aug. 1st 1854

Dear Brother,

I arrived here safely last evening but not till 11 o'clock at night I have to stop at St Louis over night, Friday morning got away from St Louis, not till 1½ or two hours behind time owing to the fog upon the river which prevented the boat from making the trip down till morning & we arrived at Chicago over an hour late (about 2 o'clock) but I got about 2 hours at 25 cts per hour & started from Chicago about 6. Saturday morning, but the train did not connect with the train through Elyria so I was to stop on to Grafton and take the stage or rather mail wagon from there to Elyria which took about 2 hours to go through the mud to Elyria I was sorry to disturb the Doctor after he had gone to bed & was of a mind to go to the tavern, but thought I should be provoked if any of my Friends should go to the Tavern & then have to call me out of bed & so I concluded to call them up & found them all well, I met a meeting this P.M. but concluded on account of the bad state of the roads not to go this P.M.

I fear that the trains running through Elgin do not make any regular connection at present with the through trains, soon to change, but on any of the days that returning by Elgin you can leave Chicago at night & then laying over a matter of three hours at Dundee, & a little while at Elgin you will take the Wisconsin train (I believe) one o'clock through Elgin, by leaving Chicago at night you have time the next day to lay by & wait for succeeding train but when I come it being saturday night there would be no more trains till Monday so I was obliged in order to get to Elgin sabbath night to keep the through train out to Grafton & take the stage from there to Elgin, 7 miles I think I shall start from here tomorrow but from there not till Tuesday, I don't know but I could about as soon manage to stay at Bangor next Sabbath & go up Wednesday. I should have to go by the way of Belvidere & Janesville to get there so as to go up Friday & want to stop a little in Bangor.

Yours affectionately,

C. H. Beck

Miles - Albion Jan 2[illegible] 1856
Dunbarton Jan 1856 —

Hill January 23. 1856.

Dear Sister Nellie

My conscience troubles me that I have not written to you before but I have kept putting it off — and I hardly know why — I received your kind letter sometime since — was very glad to hear from you by your own hand writing.

Dear Sister Nellie. My dear brother Stephen is no more — He died a week ago last monday night — which was the 14th He arrived home safe and in apparent good health just four weeks before he died — he was at home one week before he was taken — now well he was one week well a week before he took his bed — he all felt that that he really had a settled fever — but was getting along as well as could be expected — Saturday evening before he died monday — I noticed the face what he

thought of him— He said that he was getting pretty sick— thought his fever about burning— did not consider him dangerous— He did not have his senses much of the time after Friday— Saturday evening I was down he knew me— said "good evening Allen" Monday when I went down he did not know me— was very sick.

Dear Nettie. How short this life is at the longest— how important— if we intend to make any preparation for eternity that we be about it today.

How quick the strong man is cut down we have had an instance of it in this place this week— At Mr Mitchell. Christ Sargents husband— died of billious colic Peace knows her— she is the woman that has four children in four years.

Thursday evening. Thanks to you to the Lord I am for alone— so I will take this opportunity to write a little I have been up to Mr Follett this afternoon to a donation party— had a

pretty good time. Thirza was not very
there. I guess he has good visit for him
every thing is just as neat and the
seems to love and respect him
and he seems to enjoy her. Mrs Cook
enquired after you this afternoon.
I have not been away from home
but little this week. The children have
none of them been to meeting since
you went away from here on account
of the whooping cough. I believe that
I have been to meeting only three half
days since you went away. Thirza
left the children alone. But I do not
hardly feel safe to do so. Do you go
to meeting? How is your health this
winter? Rush could step in and see
you and all the rest. How do the little
ones get along. I do want to see them
very much. Do think they have got
just the names. Charles says that
it is strange we did not any of us
think of those names before. We are
glad to hear that they are so well
[illegible]

Dear little Boys— We almost forget him
many times of his frequently— I suppose
he thinks much of "Uncle Edwin"
Our children are all very well— Lucy
much better than we at any time for many
days— Charles's health is about as
it usually is in winter— I wish he
like the Army better—
27th Sunday evening— Charles and I
have been to meeting this afternoon
carried the children down to Thurlows—
Thurlows called to the P.O. and I am sorry
a letter from Mother— It seems that she
has got to Utica— How she must have
felt when at Albany— when she went into
her room and saw Father lying senseless
on the floor— What a manifest Providence
in the going into the room just as
she did— Mother does not say a word
as to
might— for nothing does she—
I presume Mother will not [illegible] from there
a long time— such an event is very
[illegible]— tongue cannot describe.
Dear Willie what a great thing it is to feel to say
"Thy will be done"
Oh how much we have
to show us of the shortness of time— how we
have it is that we all must die.
Towards home soon— if you can— I know you are
[illegible] for not writing much— having the
[illegible]— but I do want to hear from you.
Love my love to your Mother— What a comfort to you
and her too that you can be together— with much love
Yours affectionately

time. Dr McRae is trying to heal Mr Riders face without any further cutting. Cannot yet tell with what success, we hope for the best—

Yours

L. W. Serber

This is a part of a letter we had from Samuel McRider is now at Bangor they have been there more than a week. We heard from Walter Saturday he was but little better has yet a bad leg.

In haste Feb 25th

Allen

Charles Mills Maine
July 25 1856

Limington Me July 25 1856

Dear Brother Isaac

I intended to have written to you in answer to your last letter a good while ago but I have been so driven that I dont find time for any thing hardly to read the Kansas Outrages & the doings of Congress much more to write. Jane takes the Campaign Tribune & is quite interested there is a club of Weekly Tribunes of 38 & nearly as many of Campaign Tribune This Town was strongly Loco but it will be almost unanimous for Fremont. Pelatiah Foxcroft has been lecturing upon Kansas & the Slave power in Congress, around about in most every town he is really a very smart fellow. I have been haying only 10 days the last week has been very good hay weather but the beginning was very poor. I have got in only 16 loads yet I have not got onto the Intervale except I have got most of the swail & I have saved most two acres in the north field for seed. Haying came on rather late this year but the very hot weather last week has ripened it off very fast people generally have not got half done yet it will take me a fortnight longer I think my grass is a little better than last year. My two Calves both sixteen

and died last week they were sick only
a day or two I could not tell any thing about
them they had had with all summer
and were in good order one of them was the
largest calf of his age that I ever raised
my corn looks pretty well it is just tasseling
some of it on the farther piece has begun to silk
the weeds grow nicely have got them all hoed
once but they need hoeing again but my hoeing
drives me so that I cannot stop to hoe yet as this
I have not sold my horse yet I went up
to Dover to carry my wool (had 300 lb. sold
at 31 ct.) showed the gray horse to Thompson
he said he ought to fetch me $200, I was
offered 150, but I thought I had better let
him run in the pasture a while and fat up
a little and run the risk of selling him for
more. I expect there will be but little lumbering
done next winter and not much demand for
horses or Oxen for the woods
One of J. K Billington brothers has bought
Austins farm for $1000, with the crops and tools
moved on to it & Austin has bought the
Ob Livermore farm with the growing crops
for 750, he thinks he has got a more
productive farm but the situation not so
good & the buildings not so good.
If Austins farm is worth 1000, what should
mine be worth

We have not heard from Bangor since we were there the 4th part of July I am very much afraid Lucy will never be any better she has got such a cough & raises so much I did not see Eliab he had gone to Boston (Mr Rider & Almeida started for Boston the day we left Bangor to see a Physician there about his cancer I dont know whether they were going to N. Ha. or not we have not heard from them yet We want very much to hear about you & Betty & the little ones

I want to know when you are going west & where you are going, how long you are going to stay, and what you are going for, & what you are calculating to do when you get there & when you expect to go on to Hot-Rail Road, & Alfred Holmes is here from Minesota is going to stay all summer he has let him farm this season & Douglass he said they were making a location or going to make a preliminary survey of that road

Anna & He Dont seem to be quite decided that I had better sell out here and go west & Mother Linden, talks that way but I dont know perhaps something may turn up yet sometime

My love to all your family, Yours D. W. Rich

Mrs. Meredith
Hotel Wellington
Sunday Jan 15/76

[illegible]
— Dear Miss Pitt —

I know that you begin to think I have forgotten you — because I have not written before — but I did not mean to do so — I intended writing a few days ago — but I can assure you that I have not — I do not let a day pass that I do not think of you and your kindness to me a year ago at this time you were here — and I shall not forget very soon how much I enjoyed your stay here last summer

But I must tell you dear — that other night I dreamt that you rushed to the door — (I saw you just as plain) with your two sisters — and I looked and looked — to see if I could tell which was which — but Lilian I could tell I awoke in a while when I woke that I could have cried — a little sooner —

since I received your letter Isabel Harriet has been very sick with Typhus fever she was keeping school in Selma she is now well enough to walk around and ride out a little — She has got so beat out with fatigue and anxiety that she has been sick she has not been so sick as Harriet was — she had a fever but does not get up so quick as Harriet does Mary has a very severe back ache occasioned by lifting Harriet so much Mother has kept house 36 years and never had a fever in her family until last winter — Mother has not had much sickness in her family perhaps the more we get to know what a blessing it is to have a healthy family know thankful we ought to be for our health — And yet I live along day after day without realizing I fear

My own health is really good if I do not work too hard — if I do my back troubles me —

Eugene — we hear from Father and
Lucy occasionally Charles and I have
been to Bangor one week Tuesday after
the fourth — I thought that if we did
not — then we would not go until
the last of Sept or first of Oct — but
circumstances altered things considerable
and we had better stand up and
did — We found Lucy as well
as we expected to find her but
made about her — but she looks
really very feeble — if she was
only fat Gene I should feel
she could not go with Lucy after
like a person — with medical assump-
tion says a gradual — [illegible]
her death all of the time — I never
saw her begin to look so feeble as
she does now — She has a little good
appetite — now — and generally
keeps her good humor — mother thinks
a hard coughing fall — her pulse
sometimes 115 — 120 — and sometimes 130 —
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] —

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Lumbarton

Milo Sept 21 1856

Dear Brother Isaac

I received your letter of Sept 6, informing me of the sad intelligence of Mayos death a week ago & intended to have written last week but Albinan Uncle Luther Bickford who is preaching now in Waltham Mass. was here on a visit & preached at Milo last Sabbath & we stopped so long at Father Hillsings that I had not time to write & have been very busy last week ploughing cutting up corn &c How sudden & unexpected the death of your dear little Mayo It seems strange that one so well & healthy as he has always been should be taken so suddenly away It shows us how often our fondest hopes & expectations are cut off & blighted It must be hard for you to start off to Ohio without the little Mayo that you have journeyed so much with but it is the right of the Almighty Sovereign to call his children when He sees fit

Mrs Chas Mellit (She that was Olive Sargent) buried her second child last week died of Dysentery She buried her husband last spring

We have not had any frost yet have enough to injure any thing it nipped the squash leaves in the garden a little but has not touched the corn or beans I have got my corn about all cut up & stuked but have not husked any yet

the two rows which I planted when I was hoeing are just beginning to harden my corn will be very sound & good but not very stout—It costs a good deal to raise 50 bush corn in this country.
I have plowed up 4 acres of that thinest gravel land on the interivale & partly harrowed it am going to sow it down with grass seed this fall I suppose it would have been better to have sowed it sooner
I want to hear about your purchase if you have made one in Ohio &c &c &c and after you have been there long enough to get a little acquainted I want you to tell me whether I had better sell here & go out there and buy some small farm or how low I had better sell here for the sake of going there you being acquainted here can tell better (after getting a little acquainted there) under what circumstances I should better myself to change my location
My love to your Wife & littleones, perhaps Albina may get time to put in a few words to Nettie

Your Affectionate Brother C. W. Rich

Ark. Ala. Sept 22. 1856.

My dear Isaac & Sister-

We have just got another letter from you last night bringing again sad intelligence.

I cannot realize that your beautiful little family is so broken up- The ways of Wisdom are truly "mysterious — and passed finding out"

I have thought to myself - since we heard of dear little Mayos death - Why was he not spared - and some child taken whose parents did not not feel the importance - nor willing ness to bring up their children to usefulness in the world. But we can feel that it is all right - for it is God that has done it - "He does all things well" What a great thing it is for us sinful creatures to feel to say "Thy will be done"

Mayo was a dear little boy - I always loved him I never felt that he crowded me all the while he was here last summer - I do not think any other child could come here with our children and stay so long without sometimes feeling a little tired - I just very glad he came down here this summer - the children will remember him better - Mary came in one the other day and wanted Aunt Isaacs letter "that told that Mayo was dead" I got it for her then she said "may I have it Mother" wishing me to give it to her for her own because it told of Mayos death The children often speak of Mayo - and dear little Hattie -

Charles and I both thought but did not express it to each other till tonight — when we heard of Mayos death Isaac and Hattie, a pair of beautiful boys - they will take a great deal of comfort in them but alas - one of those our Heavenly Father saw fit to call to the spirit land -

Dear little Jessie. That I should like to fly to you to sympathize with you in your bereavements, you may be sure of my sympathies -

Your house must have been a sick house I hope before this reaches you you will all be well - I fear Lovan will get sick - being took of this as it so much - and so much care -

Do you attribute it to any thing in particular that so many of you should have the dysentery

The dysentery has prevailed here some - Mrs Olive Nichols child died - Mrs Austin had a child very sick with it - is better now - Our family have all been very well, lately -

We had a letter from Mother the other day - she is coming up with Lizzie to make us a visit - in a few days I hope all other will conclude to move up here - it will be so much pleasure for Mother -

Mattie will be so lonely there alone so much - I know it will make a good deal more care for Mattie to have such a large family - but she will have her sister besides Mother and her sister is a "helping hand"

I suppose you hear from Stanislaus occasionally - He has been here since we were at Banquet last - He says that they will find that Mr Rider is liable to be taken away at any time his cancer is eating fast - Almeida says that he does not suffer much - for a cancer - the day she was down here he was at work on Elbridges house - Hiram still works

When do you expect to go to Linn - We shall either have you and Isaac till fall I hope - Jessie I long to get hold of your dear children especially those that you have named with so much - I cannot realize that those charms - How thankful we should be, that our children are - May God bless you all - Mother keeps a long face yet

Samuel Annan

Sept. 27 1857 Barnstead

Vt.

Mr Isaac S. Ostrander

Bangor Sept 28 I received this from L Garnett a day or two since with a request to forward it to you & have not time to write much now I have just arrived here with Allie & Baby to make a visit & see the state fair we are all pretty well & so is Elizabeth formly they have just received a letter from Nettie glad to hear that your little boy is so well and must weigh about as much at six weeks old as ours does at 4 months
There is prospect of quite a rush here at the state Fair after I get home I will write you about it C W Rich

Elyria Ohio — Feb. 10 8. 1857

Dear Sister Lettie

When I received your last letter which was in Dec., I thought I would answer it immediately — but week after week has passed and I have not answered it yet. I feel very glad to hear directly from you. It had been some time since I had seen your hand writing — though I heard from you through others frequently —

Truly, how many changes have taken place since we last saw each other — We have both been called to pass through what we never before anticipated — you to part with two lovely children — and I with a dear and dear brother — you know it was with us in age. but I trust it has gone to live with the Heavenly Father — and you have not the least reason to doubt but that your "lovely children" are Spirits in Heaven — Is it not a source of happiness to think of being a mother of spirits in heaven — though it is hard parting with our loved ones —

How you must enjoy your own home — especially as if Isaac could be at home all of the time when he is away. I know you must feel lonely — for when our husband — is gone we are in our usual home — When that is gone for only a few days time seems so long —

I will I should when I write be quite glad if you could have time at home to

to rich with him away. he says every one does not feel so - perhaps if I had not a good husband I should not feel so.

Now I should love to run in and see you and your little Bibbs. Bessie says that he hopes you will be so, that we shall sometime go to Linn.

I suppose you and Emma run back and forth often - how far do you live apart. We have not heard from Ina for a long time - please get my book her. I wish she would write to us -

We have not heard from Mr Rider since Charles was up there - two or three weeks since - he was quite comfortable the day that I - was there - but he suffers a good deal - some days he can not eat at all - Kinnedia does have a hard time I assure she - she keeps a girl - Emma goes to school at the Fillings - friends of Mrs Everetts - has a good boarding place - he works for his board - he says that he hopes during recess will be sufficient with a good fire and cool at night - mornings -

Ella - During the week of last week I did not find time to write - I have been making a book for Mary - this week I am going to make me a pair reading shoes - I have seen my boss - his wife only have made about 25 different garments for myself and family within these two weeks - jackets - pants - vests - dress - a frock for Emma - and various other garments besides knitting and reading -

I do not know as I ever enjoyed a visit as I did

Love Ines - we have all been well - with the exception of a cold occasionally - Charlies health has been good all winter - I do not think it has been better any winter since I have lived with him - he has some rheumatic occasionally - Charlie and Joseph have been to school most every day since last fall - which was only nine weeks - it closed last week - They learned pretty well - and so has Mary - She will read and spell in three letters very well - It is fun to hear her read - she learns so easy - I calculate to spend one hour from 9 till 10 - hearing them read every forenoon unless something more than common takes place to prevent we have been in the habit since school began of hearing them read and spell - as soon as I get the table cleared after breakfast Charlie says that he thinks that they have learned as much at home as they have at school

How lonely we should be if we had no children sometimes think - I fear we should be as lonesome as Mr Sargent and wife - they say they are Mr Sargent has been unwell all winter goes out when it is pleasant - but not able to do his chores - O I must tell you what a great calamity befell them - their little dog "Prince" you remember him don't you? got into the well and was drowned - Mr Sargent swimmed - and swimmed - and then was one day when I was up there - I really pitied him - he said that he supposed people would say he was foolish if he should say that he had rather lose one of his cows - but he had

How much they need two or three children to cheer them up -

how you prosper in all matters -

We have been anticipating a visit from Charles and Marian this winter - but Mother wrote in her last letter that they would not be able to come - You of course know all about Lucinda's plans to go west in the spring -

Mother wrote to know what we thought about her going to Ohio with him - we did not know what to advise - I feel as far as I are concerned that I should like to have Mother spend her days with us if she can be happy here - I feel that I will try to do all I can to make her so - I do not think Mother has been so happy here - for two or three of the last years as she used to be - and I do not know why it is but think it is only because we do not have things so comfortable as they used to be -

I suppose you Father has got well has she not - My Father farming as well as ever - Father - he has been laid up six weeks today with what might be called a broken leg - He had a sick colt that got out in the barn in getting him up one morning the colt kicked back into father's leg giving his right leg such a crushing - that it feared at first that it was badly broken - he is now gaining fast - walks with crutches -

Lida Mary is in Mass - Thos in Ill - Johnnie in Georgia - at work at his trade - moulding - Hannah goes to school -

Charles had a letter from Isaac the other day - he was in Indiana - Are you not sorry he will not be in this part - It seems that the coal business is going to finish there - Isaac did not write how [illegible]

Dear Sister
Received your kind letter
of the 2nd inst - was glad to hear from you
and to learn that you were all well -
We have been anticipating a visit from Charles
and Marian this winter - but Mother wrote in her
last letter that they would not be able to come -
You of course know all about Lucinda's plans
to go west in the spring -
Mother wrote to know what we thought about
her going to Ohio with him - we did not know what
to advise - I feel as far as I are concerned that I
should like to have Mother spend her days with us
if she can be happy here - I feel that I will try to
do all I can to make her so - I do not think Mother
has been so happy here - for two or three of the last years
as she used to be - and I do not know why it is
but think it is only because we do not have things
so comfortable as they used to be -
I suppose you Father has got well has
she not - My Father farming as well as ever
Father - he has been laid up six weeks today with
what might be called a broken leg - He had a
sick colt that got out in the barn in getting him
up one morning the colt kicked back into father's leg
giving his right leg such a crushing - that it
feared at first that it was badly broken - he is
now gaining fast - walks with crutches -
Lida Mary is in Mass - Thos in Ill - Johnnie
in Georgia - at work at his trade - moulding -
Hannah goes to school -
Charles had a letter from Isaac the other
day - he was in Indiana - Are you not sorry he
will not be in this part - It seems that the coal business
is going to finish there - Isaac did not write how

Milo March 22 1857 -
Charles

Elyria Ohio Milo March 22 1857

Dear Brother Isaac

I received a letter from you sometime ago Dated at Dayton and another recently & I am much obliged to you for them I am very much interested to hear of the prosperity of your Town which far exceeds my expectations, When I used to tell Samuel Conant & others how much the improvement & business &c there would be in five y. they thought I was wild but there seems to be more improvement now than I expected there would be in five years I should really like to see Dayton once more.

You have already been informed of Mr Rice's death we are now fine sleighing the greater part week Samuel & Elias came up from Berea the ground is covered with snow yet though the sleighing is getting rather low in spots there is not no sleighing to Bangor we have had a few extremely cold days this winter once the thermometer on rather the mercury run down low & have up at 10 or about that but take the average of the winter I think it has not been colder than usual if it has as cold I have not seen so much low in Indiana I my self as this winter is

It seems to me that our government at Washington keeps going from bad to worse as fast as they can — I don't mean by the legislature of Kansas by voting to pay their expences &c and then the decision of a majority of the Supreme Court in the Dred Scott case through the Opinion of Judge Mc Lean & Judge Curtis must have some influence & the nation people must get waked up after a while I don't know what will become of Kansas but I think there is at least an even chance that Kansas & Oregon will come in to the Union as States within 2 next four years though perhaps not We have just made out to get a new board of selectmen for this year we have got out Macomber & Day & got Mr Tolman & John Sampson & Mr Kittredge I am in hopes that the Town business will be done somewhat better than it has been we have raised heavy taxes for a good many years just about 1000 dollars for the current expences of the Town besides the school & poor Tax but still the Town has been getting more in debt last year we fell behind about 600 dollars though about ½ of it was for Law suits my cash tax here is about 25 dollars a year & my real tax is a much more I have got most paid for my land here for which I gave five hundred

I believe Samuel has about concluded to leave Birds here for the present & I expect he will come up here this summer with Mother & I am inclined to think it will be better for him than to go away off there among strangers so young I am afraid Mother wont be so well contented here as she used to be before she lived at Bangor so much where she could have everything so nice & convenient &c

I Dont know but I am getting lazy or something for I dont like hard work so well as I used to & I never liked it very much but to live in this country & people must do most of their work themselves for if they hire most it takes so much of crops to pay that there is hardly enough left to live on I believe I shall make my calculations to reduce my stock some next fall & sell hay a few years. so that if any thing should turn up I may be ready to improve an opportunity I suppose that if I should sell now I should have to sell at a very low figure & I should have but little left to buy with any where else, I wish you would write me often & keep me advised of your whereabouts & what you get to do &c

It is hard for me to leave my family but with [illegible]

coming again but whether it is best for me
to wait for something to turn up, or to
go and hunt up something I can not tell
if you happen to come across any thing that
I can do that you think it worth while for
me to leave home for. I should like to have you
let me know.
I don't know yet whether James will work
for me this summer or not still, Rider
has offered him 11, dollars a month for 3 months.
I paid him a debt that last season I don't know
whether he will choose to work up there or here
he has been to school at Milo village this last
winter & boarded at Everett, he is to work now
for Everett cutting up his wood at 2 dollars a month
I don't know whether you have left Du Quoin
yet but I suppose that you have gone back
to Elgin by this time & perhaps gone somewhere
else by this time however. I will send this to
Elgin & if you are not there I suppose letter
will get it. I should have written to you at
Du Quoin if I had known you would have
been there so long. We want to hear from
you & Hattie & Fred often.
I asked Athina if she had any thing she wanted
to put in & she said nothing but Love
From affectionately
C. H. Dick

C. W. Rich
Milo Apr. 19. 1857
Elyria

Milo Apr 19th 1857

Dear Brother Isaac

I receive your letter which
I am sure was very obliging & glad to
hear of your health & prosperity &c I am
sorry that you have got the road Engineer
business & have more fear with the Pittsburgh
river than ever & the more I get into it
out the job of Mr Cleveland (I suppose) there
was not a very great rain but I am sure there
was enough to bring any thing away which set the
water to running into pits will be heard and that
was followed by a warm rain which they say melted
very down from Pittsburgh to the mouth of the canal
at Newport & the fort factory the fort & the houses
are washed all the way down the river & pieces of mine
& Lyman on an island & Mr Janes away the Bridge
from at Erie (Cashier) & at Your town village it
will be away the Bridge, one to mill & the Abutments
Bridge at Wayne one new toll Bridge some bridges
& mills & houses & west one mile all clear
at the mouth of the river. The people I know
about & went out first & moved the bar away &
I have right here & some Steamboats in
it & some that have & some Steamboats
to bring up & some that have & some
to bring up & some that have & some
to bring up & some that have & some

Cr[illegible] Creek bridge is low up to this stream bridge over Brown's Creek Bridge Kind of the mill I have got an old Brown mill bridge that came through under Brown Cr[illegible] bridge without injuring it

May 2nd I have been so busy for a few days past that I have not had time to finish my letter since writing the above we have had an addition to our family of a little daughter, born Apr 24. weighed 9¼ lbs Albina is quite smart the baby seems to be pretty well but it lost ¾ of a pound the first week Matilda is not come up here yet but I expect her soon Almeida has probably written to you before this time how she & James have bought out Will Rice and have got the whole of the Rice farm with the stock & tools &c except twenty five rods of the north side of the road which Mr Rice gave to Elbridge I think they will do well if James is careful not work too hard I have got about as much wood up as I had last year and have got it cut up. I have sowed only one bush of wheat & 2 bushels of Peas & Oats yet out on the knoll shall sow most of the rest of it with Barley I have got George Hoskins here to work this summer have to give him 15 dollars for six months

It snow went off very early but there has been freezing nights so much that the season is not very forward though I think full as forward as usual my grass ground on the bank is considerably torn up by the ice drifting over it and the plowed ground is washed so that it shows the grass roots considerable where the sod was turned over on the brake up ground

I [illegible] intended to have come to
Boston this time but I want to hunger
but could not [illegible] time to my
Spring work has been stopped for a week on
account of the wet weather I just made out
to plow the garden yesterday & if it does not
rain I shall go to making garden to morrow I
have got some Chinese Sugar Cane seed to
plant sent from the Patent Office
I have not got but 39 sheep now I have lost
two & I expect it is not a something I lost one
last Spring & sold off about half last fall thinking
to have only the healthy ones but some proved to be
sickly I have lost 8 or 10 lambs have got only
20 now shall not rain more than 24 I guess
I have usually depended upon my [illegible] to pay
my rent but shall have hard work to save enough
this year to pay for what help I shall have to hire
I expect Mother up this week she thought she should
come up [illegible] but Elijah thought he should come
up with her if he does not come up the first part
of the week I dont know but I shall go down and
take a Chaise which Elijah bought for 30 dollars at Auction
bring her up it is quite a good chaise a real bargain
if any body wants it I dont know but I shall take it
and not buy a wagon though it would rather have a
wagon for then women could ride it is possible
I might exchange for a wagon at Dover
I am in a hurry to hear whether you get this or
not it is time for me to go to work so I must
have to stop finish this on [illegible] if Rich

Charles Rich
Milo Aug 23 1857

Milo (Elmira) Aug 23. 1857

Dear Brother Isaac

I received yours of Aug 14th the other day, was very glad to hear from you & Mother, & of the arrival of Jesse with Strangers, and of your general good health. We are all very well now. The children have occasionally had some ill turns but have not been much amiss all have generally been quite well I have been troubled some with a lame back all through haying. I suppose it is Rheumatic. I have just got through haying except that I have got all the bank and a couple of loads round the old house to get in but mostly was about dry enough to get in yesterday but I only got it raked & cocked but could not get it in & To day it rained steady till after noon George Gladyshim & I have got all my hay except I have had a boy & Dollar worth we have had the most rainy hay season that I ever know I began to hay very early a week earlier than any of my neighbors we had a week of poor weather & then a week of constant rain & I unluckily lost about two tons & 2 or 3 more badly damaged. Mr Jones hired it & said that his hay about all down just before the rain & got it most all spoiled

My crops all look well. I sowed thirty
one bush of wheat out on the knoll & that
would have been pretty good but the weather
destroyed more than half of it. I have cut the wheat
& stacked it up. & mowed one piece of the Barley &
got it in, another piece need cutting immediately
& some of my Oats & Peas will do to cut in a day or two
I sowed the most of that which I plowed up last
fall on the intervail with Oats & Peas & they look very
well though they were sowed late on account of the wet
weather last spring. The corn is just getting large enough
to hoe though we have not hoed any yet. I don't
see any signs of Potato rot yet
I am getting along with my work about the same
as usual something always coming. & I dragging
my work up at the last one
I meant to have written a long time ago but
somehow I kept neglecting it. I will try to write
oftener. I should write some particularly to mother
but Albion has written some to her & there is
no letter from Aunt Conant to send so that I
shall not have room to write much now
Dr Squire seems to go ahead pretty fast
I wish I could see them again indeed I
want to go west more than I did before
I went at all. My love to Betty & the little ones
& to Anna & her family. I want to see your
place very much. I think that region about Elgin
one of the best locations that I know of.
Affectionately C. H. Olin

Albina May 3/57 Mils

Elysian

Elyria Aug 23 57

Aug. 23. 1857

Dear Sister

I cannot for the life of me think what I have forgotten you — because I have delayed writing so long — But I have not — I feel that I have no excuse to offer — except that Mother & Nattie do have a great deal to take all of my time — with baby and all —

We have had two letters from you. and one from Isaac since you got to Illinois — very glad to hear of Isaac's & Hattie's prosperity. but cannot help wishing their little one had been a girl — as we will make a match for Hattie. I should love to run in and see you all some day. you must all be happy I think — But I fear it will be a long time before I shall see Hattie's good face again I suppose Nattie is mistaken & we all about her visit at home — till some Friday. the rain was — I did not know how you were coming

Hannah Richer was gone up to Mr Billingtons
first at first that I hardly knew which way to
turn - or what to do - but got along nicely - enjoyed
their visit much - They all stayed till Monday
after tea - or then all went - i.e. Elwells family
went to Brownville E - wife and baby came back
Tuesday after tea - Charles went to Brownville
after Hattie and bring the wash work. Hattie seemed
to enjoy herself but I presume she was glad to get
home - how much care she does take of Irving
Do you think that he can live to be 20 years old
he seems to me just as Betty did, - like a bird -
I really do wish she could be allowed to stay in
the dirt one hour just as he pleased - it seems to
me that those pale cheeks would change their color
I suppose you have not heard of Mrs Hastings's
death - she died very suddenly - was sick about
48 hours - inflammation - suffered a great deal
by spells - Mr Billington keeps house and cooks
cooks too - I guess -
Mrs Sargent is expecting her brother Mr Davis
to come and live with them - perhaps it is the
best arrangement they can make - but don't

to me with it enough to knit- & sew two pr's of stockings as how the brothers children will be something of a trial to both Mr & Mrs Sargent. I should be with them in their place instead of Mr Sargent. Though they are good folks- but Mrs S cannot take as much care in any respect- I feel that I have not one kind friend that I can confide in in this neighborhood- though I feel that they are all friends. Last week I had the pleasure of having Mrs Theo: Sargent- Mrs Joseph & Mr Hicks come and spend the afternoon, this week I am a going to make a quilting and invite every woman in the neighborhood except them- wish you was here- as I have many times this summer- Mother I do think this is a good place- or rather good home- though I know we do not have so many of the comforts of life as many have- but we have enough to make us comfortable.

We have had a very good school this summer Mary has learned very well she can not call so many hard words as Joseph but she reads more readily- if she keeps on she will beat both of the boys- she loves to learn but she is a girl

that needs very judicious management
She needs a great deal of patience, firmness,
kindness and wisdom - She had come a long-
ways the other day - and it is the first time that
one of them ever did or is likely ever to do
except when that is used up to Aeneas with the part
that I know of - I asked to see with regulated heart
and tears in my eyes I did not complain - but
took her into your bed room and prayed with
her - and when her Father came she told him
I guess she did more than I -
Lucretia - pray for me that I may ever
be endowed with the wisdom and grace that I
need to be a daughter - Sister and wife but
as a Mother - O what a place is a Mothers
Should - is the Lord more in particulars
while she is a good woman she is
in the world more than half of the time - must
look at her pictures - begins to tell things in
her words a little - has a smile for every
one that looks at her - the father takes great
dead of comfort with her about - I hope she will
be a comfort, [illegible] as long as she lives -
[illegible] Your affectionate daughter
Ellen

Charles City

Oct. 18. 1837

Wednesday

Dear Sister Jane

I received a letter from you but I don't remember when but I presume it is since I have written to you [illegible] I received Samuel Comanti letter. I believe I told you that Albina & I & the Baby went to the State settlement fair, The baby was sick with a cold so that we had to stay till Monday before we could go home There was some very good cattle & horses though not any better than I expected, The best time they made on a trial of speed, on trotting, was a mile in 2 minutes & 34 seconds from that to 3 minutes There was a very good show of everything in Clarinda Iowa Had it been so full of everything especially of people that we could hardly see any thing, we had a very good view of the Balloon ascension could see the baloon with a spy glass for 1½ of an hour Mr Wise the Aeronaut set out to have come 5 or 6 miles from Clarinda but his grapple tore out the side of his car and it dragged him a mile or two over some woods and through a fence and finally he had to slide out and let his baloon go, then pump it again & ran it away down near Cincinnati

Dear Sister I had written so much & have not time to finish & put it away & now I have lost the Threshing machine [illegible] not [illegible]

I should like to see those cattle you spoke of are the cattle & horses as small according to their size as yours were. I went a 10 hundred horse on a 7 foot Ox & so we were than the same sized animals raised there.

I saw some very pretty Devon cattle though rather small in Bangor at the show raised by the Shakers in Poland. Frank Brown of Brownville bought a bull calf for 75 dollars. There were some pretty good Durhams & Ayrshires. Mr Packard of Sebec bought a pair of 3 year old steers for which he gave $175. I did not go to Piscataquis county cattle show but there was a Town show in Milo & there were quite a lot of cattle some from Sebec Brownville & Medford they had several committee chosen to report on town oxen, cows, Heifers, sheep & swine &c but no premium there was considerable good hauling of cattle on a drag though most of the cattle were young, Frank Brown had a pair of large Oxen which hauld about 8 hundred off the scales they said they had a drag load of about 3½ Tons up in front of the Meeting house which some of the cattle could start to on the road not on the grass the committee reported that my steers hauled 2nd best according to size but a some said best 3 & Tons to start on a road for cattle only 6 feet & an inch mine hauled it about the length of the drag I did not take them down thinking to haul them, or because I thought them any thing extra but most every body in Town took out as they had some drove up their whole stock to make a show my cattle were hitched to the fence & Wm Hamlin took a jaunt to them & inquired where they were & came to me to know if he might hitch them on he wanted to see them haul There was quite a collection of people as well as cattle & as Aaron Burpee who lives in Dover had a tent & sold cider the

& undertook to sell spirit slyly they got evidence of sale
the boys razed his tent & hauled his waygon off out of the Vilage
& the select men had the man who was with him & sold the
liquor arrested & he was fined 12 dollars & costs or 20 but I
understand he would not or could not pay it & has gone to jail
I sowed my wet ground which I had plowed on the Intervale with
Oats intending to cut them for fodder but could not get ready to
cut them till they got ripe. & so I thrashed them they were so late
& lodged so that the oats are very light though I had about 180
bushels on 6 acres I raised about 70 bush Barley. two Acres of
corn probably about 50 bush towards 100 of canots not more than
50 bush of Potatoes I guess ¾ of my Potatoes rated in the ground
I forgot to tell you how that a bear killed one of my calves
& what a bear-hunt we like to have had, one night about
8 o'clock I heard a calf bleating continually as if he was in
distress or scared & I thought it was over on the knoll and
started (the calves were in the Morton lot Pasture) when I got out
to the knoll it sounded to be down in the swamp I thought one
of the calves was hung or mired kept hearing him bleat, & went
down to the lower end of the field & took my cedar wood road
that leads through to the intervale & followed it about half through &
then left the road and went by the sound of the bleating, scrambling
along through the thick swamp so dark that I could not see a thing
but I would reach out one hand & catch hold of a bush & then
the other calling here, here, whenever he stopped bleating & going
by the sound of his bleating till I got within a rod or less of him
when I heard a plunging or jumping I thought the calf was struggling
to get out of the mud or something but when I got to him I found that
the bear had just left him his back was clawed up full of
little holes where the bear had stuck his claws into him one along
down his shoulder it was torn into the bone I got the calf up and

made out to drive him out of the swamp about 6 or 8 rods to the head of the intervale by that elm tree near where I had my much heard I still when I started after him Mrs Sargent heard him bleat & came down to our house to tell us that panther was killing our calves & she & Albina & Emily Gilman & Andrew Ricker who was there started with a lantern and went up round by the Marston lot road & came clear round down to the intervale the calf was so hurt that he could not walk home & so I went home and got the Oxen & sled and hauled him up to the barn but the calf died before morning The bears have been quite plenty around here this fall they have been in Mr Rickers corn field & into the Cotton Wm Porter has caught 5 some hunters from Dover went up into the woods hunting & caught 9 nine bears & I dont know what other game

I had my horse stolen out of my stable 6 or 8 weeks since Campbells store was broken into & cloth enough for a suit of clothes taken & some other things to the value of about 20 dolls the same person came up here and took my horse out of the stable & then went up to David Livermores & took a wagon & harness & drove down to the horse-back near Levant and left the horse & wagon & a man living there took the horse up and advertised him but I did not hear from till three days after I sent by stage to Eliab to Telegraph each way

A man was seen going from near where the horse was left with a bundle towards a path leading from the horse-back to Kirkland supposed to be a man by the name of Cunningham living in Kirkland I got a warrant for him & sent an Officer after him (Harvey Wilson of Bradford) but he could not find him & if he had we could not prove any thing unless we found some of the goods upon him It cost me some time & 8 or 10 dolls to find him besides the Telegraph bills & I dont know how much Eliab paid for that yet I have filled this up with so much nonsense that I dont see as I have room to write

C W Rich

Albion
Nile. Nov. 1857

Elyria

[illegible]

[illegible]

Dear Mother

I intended to have written to you before now as we returned from Bangor - time does pass so rapidly and I have been so busy that it is now almost passed the first of November - I have been making clothes for the boys made each of them a coat, pants, vest, have got pants and jackets and mittens still to make there is a great deal of sewing and knitting to be done for a family no larger than mine - I have not quilted but two and those must every night this long time to work for I must get the little things done along besides doing my work and taking care of them

have been working all the fore noon two
hours about boys lessons - we are
going to have a female teacher - she is from
Mass - a relative of Mr Mitchells - I think
she will be a good teacher for I do want
our boys to learn a great deal this winter
They are pretty good boys and are learning
to be quite industrious - have been very
useful to their Father this summer
but their minds are not improving as
they ought to be - I often wish that I
could have more of my time to spend with
them in hearing them read &c -
They are getting to be great boys Thaxter is nigh
to my shoulders and weighs 65 lbs - Joseph
5-2 lbs - Mary 39 - Anna 15-1/4

I must tell you what a good little one
Anna is - She is a "well spring of pleasure"
in our house - she is always so pleasant

I do not think it is much Use for me
work to take care of her Work it was Mary
She Lies all night without taking food
and frequently does not wake from the
time we go to bed till Light and then
wakes up Laughing - She has not all our
this long time has no teeth yet - she laughs
and plays with Mr Others - and makes
various sounds - says da - da - &c -
and looks like her Grandmother so
every body says - and you know what
every body says must be true -
Mary thinks a good deal of her -
Mary is a pretty good girl the most of the
time but is considerable - She has
got 25 squares sewed I calculate to
learn her to knit after I get over my hurry
a little also to learn her read and spell
every day - It is no task to hear her read
I suppose Pa is getting to the gold a-

scholar. How does he enjoy going to school I suppose he takes a good deal of comfort with Willie. How hard - how very hard it must be for Somnet to be deprived from this dear little boy so long. I hardly see how he can endure it so long - What a loss Somnet has met with + sometimes it comes over me with such a pressure that I can hardly endure it. This world is truly a world of sorrow ~~and is regarded with grief~~.

I feel much ashamed to send this now - but I fear if I do not that I shall not get time to write again - and you will just feel that I am glad to write - at all. I tell all the folks and it will you - I intend to write a little before long. Please give my love to all and Frances much of them for we would like to hear from you. Charlie is willing I see I suppose he will write all about his bear fight horse stealing &c &c - In haste

Your ever affectionate daughter

Allie

I received the home circle of Feb 9th from Mrs Reed & was glad to hear you & Father were well. I had received a letter from Mrs Reed & Mrs Shreve & Mrs Hills - she died Mrs Reed's - was with Mrs Reed all the last & Mrs Reed & Mrs Shreve & Mrs Hills & Mrs Shreve & Mrs Hills & Mrs Shreve & Mrs Hills

[illegible] that [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]

Alma Mich Jan 18 1893

Erica

[illegible]

Been a beautiful day - the sun has been as clear - we have had very pleasant weather this winter thus far - we have not had any very cold weather - I do not know that the thermometer has been lower than 14 or 15° below zero - we have not had it as cold as this but a few days at a time.

We have had sleighing for some time with but little snow - we had a rain storm last week and one week before

Rosie goes to school most every day - starts off - cold mornings - does not say a word - because he has to go alone - I think I wrote you about our female teacher - she did not keep but two weeks - she did not give satisfaction - I hardly know why - now they have David Barker - I guess that he is liked - you'll see and hear of my visiting

Mrs Hall has another little child - a week old yesterday - a daughter - I do hope that womens children "will rise up and call her blessed" - Now she makes her eight children two thumbs and one eye - do the work for her family I can tell you

Mr Billingham has Mr Fields oldest daughter to keep his house - report tells that he will probably keep her - she is not 15

[illegible] from the next day after we arrived
[illegible] Father & Mother are in good health and
spirits. I suppose you hear from Emily
about as often as [illegible] I have not seen her
since she was at Bangor - Edward James
were down to the Lair - I ought to go up
there often enough. Lizzie is strong. She has
three thousand and five more that will
through soon. Anna is most nine months
old. Her father weighed her today - she weighs
17 lbs - she is a strong healthy baby - she stands
in the head of the cradle and rocks just as Charlie
used to - I have not put her on the floor much
yet - but she does not mean to be tied in a
chair much longer - for she will push the chair
that I put before her - that she need not lisp over
on to the floor if she can get her feet against
it she will lisp herself over - she loves to sit on
the floor. Mary is quite a good little girl - she
is kindly an affectionate child - she loves
Anna and Anna loves her - it would please
you to see Anna laugh out loud - to see Mary
after being gone out doors a while - It is a
blessing to Mary that she has a sister
I suppose Percie is getting to be quite a lad - I
should like to see them start off to school - I suppose
he goes alone - does he go after or before Mary. Mrs
[illegible] might [illegible] [illegible]

Charles
Feb. 8 58

[illegible]

we have had but very few cold days the climate is
so changed that has been a [illegible] in the summer
days time to [illegible]
Shall set up a [illegible] if small some respects
also to from the mountains but this one of the nicest
I am now trying to haul up some coal from the [illegible]
I mean to have some by next week
There has been a man here who knows me so long
that I can't stop to write any more but
go to the post office We are all well Allie
sends a great deal to write some but she has not
time now I must go now to homes We have
to take a big team to mill to get the mail
I shall write again next to Matt.
Affectionately yours
C H Piet

Dear Ellie

I intended to have written to you to
day but we have been interrupted and
not have time today - I thank you for your
letter - for it you could get time to write
often but I suppose your time is taken up
now as mine is. Everything all of the time is

In haste

Allie

Charles
March 2 1838

Hilo March 2nd 1838

Dear Sir

I was very happy to receive your letter and also the two papers containing Gov. Chamberlain's Message which I was very glad to see. I have seen a notice of it in the Polynesian, it seems to be a short paper, with a curious title page, written with a view to inform the people what they ought to know, rather than for the promotion of party ends. It is a fact that we have not yet seen more than Gov. Chamberlain's Message. It is astonishing to what outrageous Injustice & Duplicity the majority of the Senate will resort, to sustain the "Peculiar Institution" instance, the keeping the two protestant Senators from Indiana Fitch & Bright in the Senate until after the vote on Kauai election, also the "Packing" the Committee for Investigating the frauds in the Kauai Election returns so as to get no Investigation at all, makes my blood boil to see the wrong, outrage & Insult as the fraudulent Election in our General Government & in our Territory.

Albina
March. 8 1858

Albina
March 22 '58

Mile

Thomas Theo Brandt 6

1859

Received 11 Feb 1859
Answered 5 Mar 1859

Dear [illegible]

I am [illegible] to get this letter from Maria & Ann. Ann [illegible] ought to have sent us word [illegible] but I [illegible] a time I [illegible] & must have written [illegible] & [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Wilo Feb 14th 1860

Dear brother Isaac.

I received yours of Jan 14th & also one from Mother of Jan 30th which I intended to have answered before this, but one thing or another would happen to prevent. I went to Bangor last week to take down my horse for Elijah to use awhile was intending to come up by stage Friday but did not and it was well that I did not start for there was such a snow storm & blow Friday that the stage only got up to North Bradford in all day & then went back to Bangor again Saturday I waited in Bangor till Monday. Elijah is building a vessell of course he told you about it they are getting along very well with it there were about 25 men to work upon it when I was down to see it they were laying down & caulking the lower deck & putting in the lining in the hold he calculates to have a first rate vessell Elijahs family are all well except he had a bad cold with some sore ness at the lungs

You write for me to let my farm & come out there next summer & help you. I dont know hardly what to say. In the first place I don't know of any body about here to whome I could & would let the farm except Mr Livermore & he, and two of his sons have gone into the woods to work & wont be out till spring

Wilo Feb 14 1860

Secondly though I should admire the journey and also the being there, still I don't know as I can afford the expense of it together with the loss & waste necessarily attending my absence and then I have no idea that I could help you enough so that you could afford to pay me any where near what it would cost me If I was a master workman or could drive on and work like Wm Ferris it would be different

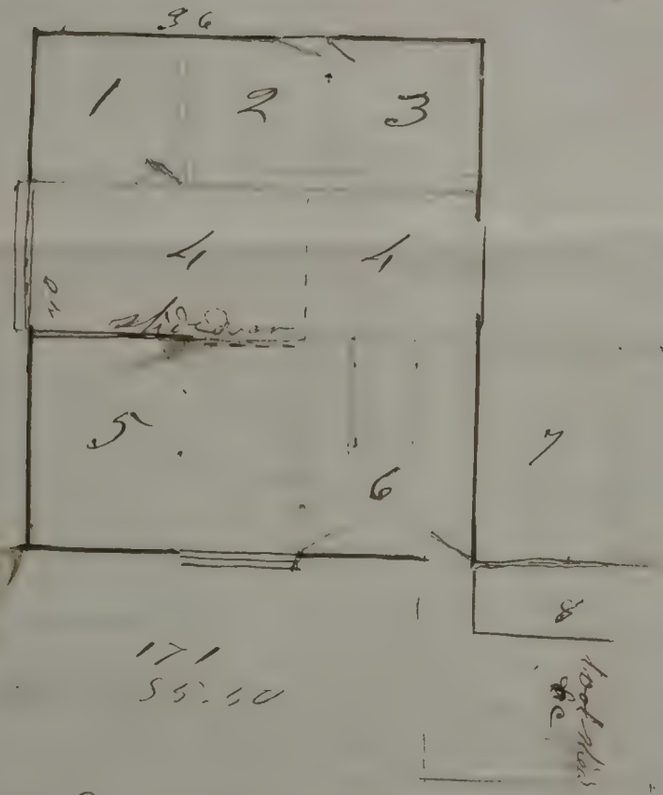
Thirdly I have got too much stock to leave on account of the care and trouble attending it for the reason that my fences are so poor I don't know as any body else could get along with it

And then I have sold my horse & the mare is sort o frisky & the colt is not fairly broke yet so that I hardly want to trust him in the hands of strangers

And last but not least, would be the trials, troubles & vexations that Albina would have while I should be gone I don't hardly know what to think about it but I cannot determine fully untill Wm Livermore gets home but most probably it will not be expedient for me to come before fall if at all this season On some accounts it seems as though I could go as well this year as any time it will be Difficult to leave home any time

About your barn I can't tell much about making a plan without knowing more about the situation of the rest of your buildings

Barn 36 by 40 feet



No 1 Granery 12 by 12

" 2 & 3 cow stables 12 by 12 each

" 4 barn floor with head scaffolds over the dotted line same hight as scaffolds over cow stables

5 carriage room 16 by 22 with slide door connecting with barn floor

6 horse stable 14 by 16 as high as (room carriage

7 Shead over horse manure

8 chance for pigs

I don't know but you might get up a convenient barn in the shape of an Octagon like Calvin Chamberlin of Foxcroft which I suppose you have seen

Tell Charlie that we have got two little boys the Bell cow & the big heifer have calved and we have three lambs. I don't winter only 20 old sheep & 12 last year lambs I never found the 11 sheep that were lost last fall I suppose they were driven off Don't wait so long before you write as I have. I am ashamed to think I haven't not written sooner but I did not know what to write & don't yet but I will be thinking about it. Tell Charlie & Mary that Georgia runs alone all about the house & if he sees a door open he starts for it and if he can get out into the back room he will paddle in the swill pail or anything that he can find

3/26.16
8.76

Yours & C Wilk

C. H. Rich
Fish. 1860
Plan of Barn

Milo Nov 9: 1875 I am not receiving your letter of yesterday stating that Lyford & Low would engage to put a school house for $1.50, I send a plan such as I think would be convenient and cheap. House 18 by 24 feet with four feet entry across one end which is to make a closet opening in to the school room and room in entry for wood coats not objected to be the closet so that school room need not be exposed to the street if both doors happen to be open, one row of writing benches made fast to the floor seats in front round three sides, except alleys, and movable benches for seats back of the writing benches and a passage way back of the whole next the wall. The movable writing tables can be made very cheap by a plain pine board on crossleys or X like I have put three of them in the plan 6 feet long & 2½ or 2¾ wide the writing tables can be made and put in when wood is not needed now. I calculated that it would cost 20 to writing benches without the tables.

The frame of the house ought to be made sufficiently strong to bear moving and I think just as well to set it on blocks or flat stones without digging, if the ground heaves by the frost the house will all rise and fall together so that it can not hurt it. the chimney need be only a small one from the chamber floor up and be placed at the end opposite the stove so that the pipe can go ~~across~~ the length of the room
I think the whole may be completed and painted for $150, I think it doubtful whether I could get the clapboards there in season for I suppose they would want them very soon after they commence
I suppose I could come and paint it
If you do not let the job I ought to know it as soon as possible so that I can make arrangements for doing it If I do it I should begin upon it next week

Charlestown
Nov. 9 / 1857
(with plans &c. in school house)

Dear Sisters

I got home very much fatigued with the roughness of the ~~roughness~~ way; and having a large wash this week (took me two days), am not fully rested yet, but am in a fair way to be so soon. I found Lucy better, but she carries a stiff neck yet; and has not got her bowels regulated. but she is so well I let her go to singing school. I dont know who pays their tuition, Mr Bumps told me they had arranged it so that I should not have to pay. James has within a day or two taken a bad, hoarse cold, which will not be likely to help him in learning to sing. As for Lizzy she is almost sick, her bowels very much deranged and I have some fears that she will be sick. I have done nothing, aside from care in her food, except to give her a little charcoal for her breath smelt. O how rotten bad. but I intend to give oil in the morning hope that will cure her & now we are all disposed of and likely to do well, I want to know how all you get on Lucy must make haste slowly that is the way to be sure so as to come up soon and you Ann must keep us informed how you progress I want to hear from little Jenny too, hope she is almost by this time, and take care Ann that in "flying round" you dont strain your back, that would be worse than to get along more slowly I send back the supporter it does not fit and is worse than none, and I charge you Lucy not to wear one that does not fit it will retard ~~recovery~~, if you dont find a fit I would try the liniment and perhaps alternate with plasters on back and bowels I did, use liniment then plaster then liniment again

I send the Dress I spake of together with one of yours & my pattern and think from both you can succeed in getting a lining I should have sent Tues but Isaac said he would take charge of the box if he would wait and I thought it better. I told the man at Sargent & Co. that I would return the supporter if it did not fit this week so I am in time

We had quite a snow storm last night — pleasant to day

I have seen none of Mr. Forbes folks since I came home

E. A. Fitch &
L. H. Forbes

Chicago 1857

Lucy

Dear Sister Milo Aug 26. 1850

Mother has sent up the enclosed for me to send to you and though I am too tired to write (I walked to meeting yesterday, rode home) could'nt sleep last night & cant think very much to day I will try to say a little. We had no preaching yesterday ~~xxx~~ but there were a pretty good number out. I cannot give up the hope that we shall have a minister here, but the very thought that there is an uncertainty about it is extremely disheartening to me, and there are others, especially Mr Henry Sargent, who by the way is ~~very~~ unwell who are entirely down "tis of no use to try to sustain prayer meetings," "tis of no use for the sewing circle to meet, they cant accomplish any thing," &c. &c. I hear from them, but we do keep up our little meetings and I think we shall as long as Mr Lee stays with us, if not longer. and there are four or five of us who will continue the sewing circles, and occasionally 3 or 4 others will meet with us Mr Lee talks of "pulling up stakes," and going to Brownville as soon as Oct. What shall we do.

I know that vain is the help of man, and that if all our men were as good, and better than Mr Lee, still they could do nothing without the Spirit of God, and that God is able to raise up a Gideon among us (though I dont know where) who shall be valiant for the Lord — Still it does seem at times that God has a controversy with us and that he is diminishing us and bringing us low. I trust that he would rise for our help. He is with us and has even now, as we have good reason to hope, brought a number of precious souls to trust

in Christ— Pray for us that he will send us a faithful shepherd
watch over,
to instruct and strengthen them, and to lead the inquiring to
Christ

Miss Lambert was unable to finish her school and we have
another teacher pretty good, but not equal to the first
Lucy lost but 2 weeks of the School by going down to Hampden
The children were overjoyed to see her. the inquiries had been very
frequent, When will Lucy come home? for some time

Take Mothers advise and come up soon, and stay long wont you
Ann's birth day to morrow dont we wish we could see her

aff. sister Almeda

Almeida Aug 26

Mrs. Samuel W. Furber

Bangor Me.

AUG

Dear Sister

Mls Oct 21. 1857

I hope you have welcomed Anne before this, and you must not try to keep her long, for we want to see her much. Albina says she expects her here Friday and if she got there last week I think she might come then. but she had better stay with you a few days so she need not be in too much hurry to go back. and perhaps if we can have Charles' horse (doubtful) we will come down by and by and visit you together. I'd like to.

Has Samuel sold any of my shirts or drawers? I believe I told you $3.00 for shirts if he cannot get that, he may get what he can. but I want $3.00 if I can get it. Will you please get me the materials for a cap, and also some quilled lace or tabs to put on a cap to wear in my bonnet so I need not so soon spoil my cap. I want also 12 yds cotton flannel, and a few skeins of blk silk, and colored cotton and will you or Elisb get me

If you have not sold any of my goods you can go to Elisb for money to make the purchases. and send up by Ann what she can bring and get E. to send the rest by some [redacted]

- 1 lb good tea
- 6 lb powdered loaf sugar nice for butter
- 10 lb brown sugar
- 1 oz nutmegs

Perhaps you can imagine how greatly I rejoiced to hear that Mr Wilson had arrived I heard him yesterday, he appears to be a warm hearted christian, a godly man. but he looks so sick, I fear he will not be able to preach long. help us to pray for him, he seems to be the man we need here. Pray for us

Have you given Mr Temple those stockings? tell him when you see him there are many here who are very sorry for the misunderstanding by which he was prevented from coming up the Sabbath he proposed for we would be very glad to see him again. A good many are vexed at Mr Kittredge and think he did not want him to come. but I think he misunderstood. — Mr and Mrs Lee are citizens of Brownville and Mr Sargent has swapped his farm for one in Granville are going to move soon — am sorry — Mr Hodgkins' seventh son came to town yesterday — Joseph Sargents son is about a fortnight old

Amanda

Nov 1 1850

We write to improve the chance that you may delay coming home until Monday so as to give this an opportunity to reach you

It seems you did not get the letter we sent down Monday by stage in the bundle with the things you sent for In that letter we earnestly exhorted you not to think of coming home at present. If you get this in season to do so we hope and trust you will now remain. It can but be a comfort and benefit to Lucy for you to be there. We are surprised that you did not send for and find your bundle, which is probably still at the stage office Nothing new here every thing remains in statu quo We have but little time to write

Lucy shall we send Mother back if she comes up tomorrow

Dear Sister I am sorry you did not keep Mother if she is well, it would be a comfort to you but I can leave home and will come down with John if Mother thinks best when she comes

Joseph hopes you got the bundle when you sent up your last letter, and so will keep Mother there We are glad to hear of Ann's arrival

I sympathise with you in your loss. hope you will be able to feel that it is all right, and to say "Thy will be done" affectionate Sister Almeida

Almeda Nov 18

Mrs. S. W. Furber
or Mrs. A. M. Metcalf
Bangor Me

U. S.
PAID
NOV 2

Attala
May 5 1864

Brownville May 5 1864

Dear Sister Nettie

I was very glad
to receive a letter from you a few
weeks since It would indeed have
been a great comfort to me if I could
have had Mother & Sisters to come in
and stop with me once in a while, and
so many times I thought, that if Mother
had stopped at Bangor, as she at one
time thought of doing, she would
surely have come up and stayed a
while with me, but that could not
be, and I was very thankful that
I had a daughter to care for me.
Lizzie was not very well when I was
taken sick and James tried a day or
two to get some good nurse to come and
help her, but could find none one
She got just about used up. Her head
does not trouble her as much as it did

but her stomach is very sore and weak & she feels almost constant fatigue I dont know what she would have done if I had had to be lifted, but I was so sore I could have nobody move me For some days I had to lie on my back with my feet drawn up and my knees supported by pillows, with 3 pillows under my head. in that position (and it was the only one in which I could lie) I could take my drinks without moving. A day or two after the Dr. left me I had an eruption all over my neck, a perfect blotch over the whole of it smarting and itching and burning for more than 3 weeks then the swelling went down, but such a thickskinned, rough, wrinkled, old, and altogether curious looking neck, as mine was for 6 weeks, I guess you never saw. my face too was broken out & smarted worse than my neck. but not quite as long. Wasn't that singular I was never troubled with humors before

Since I wrote the letter to Anna, which I forget to send when I had the opportunity, I have gained considerably I have walked across the yard several times, but do not try to meddle with the garden I guess Lizzie will do pretty much all that is done to it this year

James' wife is getting along now, without any girl she has had a young girl all the morning while I was sick till about 2 weeks since

Baby is very good and I suppose there is no doubt that we all think enough of her, she is strong and healthy I believe they have about decided to call her Kate Frances Hattie says if she can get a picture of baby she will send one to Mother I know she wants to know how she looks I have a Photograph Album with a few pictures in it I want very to have

Mother's, and Isaac's and yours, and all your children's I have the Doctor's and Anna's, Joseph's & Lucy's, & Maria's and [redacted] two youngest children, I should be very much gratified if I could get all my brothers and sisters with all their children, and if I am ever able to go where they take them, I want to send my Photograph to all my brothers & sisters and especially to Mother

The Spring is very backward James is just beginning his Spring work he says the ground is hardly dry enough yet. his farming is very different from the way Mr Kidder used to farm he cultivates but very little land and he has almost all his cleared land in mowing & pasture - he keeps fewer cattle and more sheep than we used to do By managing in that way he gets along without hiring help all the time, he hires very little except in haying - It makes much less work in the house, than when we had 3 or 4 men, who ploughed 15 or 20 acres to sow & plant, and milked 7 or 8 cows, and I think it is more profitable than it would be to hire help to cultivate largely We have now about 50 little lambs frisking about I wish your children could see them and I wish I could see you & your children

My love to all Sister Almeda

Brownville July 23. 1866

Dear Sister Nettie

I was very glad to receive a letter from you last week and am anticipating much pleasure in your visit It is a long long time since I saw you and we have seen and felt great changes since we last met I am glad you have May with you. I want to see all the children sometimes when I think of it, it seems hard that all my brothers and sisters and all my nephews and nieces should be so far away I do want to see them so much but now I am rejoicing in the prospect of seeing you and Isaac & May

and Samuel Funber & his
wife also. I did want to go
back with one of you but I
cannot Hattie has a cough
which I fear is pretty serious
I have not felt much anxiety
about it till recently. but
now I cant think of going so
far away till her cough is
cured She is not sick but she
has had a slight cough ever since
she had diphtheria 4 yrs ago and we did not
think much of it. but she went
to the Doctor a few weeks since, and
he says it is more serious than if
it was lower on her lungs, he gave
her medicine, but it does not help
her as much as he hoped it would
he thinks curable now, but if she
dont get help soon I am afraid she
will have consumption, it is a family
disease Hattie dont often complain of.

pain and is able to do her work
Katie is good, and we think she is
pretty smart, cunning, or whatever
the name is, for a wonderful first
baby, at any rate she is a darling
We are all in usual health but I dont
enjoy such warm weather as we
have had some days I am so very
fleshy that the heat takes right
hold of me,. It is cooler now and has
been for a few days, but of course we
shall have more hot weather
I believe we have about as nice
a chance to keep cool, as most any
body we are on such high land, with
nice shade trees,
Lizzie & her husband are well
and we are all hoping to see
you soon With much love
Sister Almeda

Dear Brother New Ipsw. May 4 1834

We rather rejoice than otherwise
when we receive this opportunity to write to you
and request you to purchase us a barrell of flour with
the inclosed $7.00 as we „ hain't got nothin' to eat „ we are not
particular about superfine flour but want it good tasted &
and if you have a good opportunity we should like to have you
send it up if not send word by Cutts where it is that we
may send for it I want likewise that you should get a
little painted boxe that Charles carried eggs down in and forgot he left
it at Boynton's in Exchange St it is my sugar box and I'm
afraid the ants will run off with my sugar send it by Cutts
if you have no sooner opportunity Charles told Welch to get
the box with the molasses which was at the same place
but he got the molasses keg and left the box
Now Isaac I want to know how you feel? whether you
have a hope founded upon the Rock which taketh hold on
that within the vail? whether you enjoy the presence of
God and the light of his countenance? I hope you neglect
no duty that is made known to you that so you may have
peace in God We are having a season of refreshing
here in which many are brought to sit at the feet of
Jesus I will name a few of them Mr & Mrs Foss, Dr Kimball
Mr Farber & Theodore Mr Collins Marshall & Maria & Abby Hill
Elisa Ann & Olive Sargent Lydia Hean. Daniel Holman
and many others you know Eliab has come out as we hope

among those whose attention has been called to their owne state and need o e Charles but I dont know what to think of him he appeared to feel more a week ago than now but I dont know he dont as I can learn communicate his feelings much to any one Hector is in a critical state of mind he and his wife are puling deeply Sarah gone Stanchfield also and there are many others

It seems to me that now is the last time and that those who do not accept of mercy now before the earvest will find the wheat separated from them and themselves left and after "the door is shut" the answer to those who "seek to enter in" will be "depart from me" "I know you not"

Mr Cutler says you have to work very hard I think if your work is too hard so that there is any danger to your health you had better leave. What is a little money when put in the scales with health? but a feather lighter than a feather if you destroy health you destroy in a great measure all usefullness and can a man be guiltless to take away with his eyes open his power of usefulness. write me a long letter

Tell Ann I have entirely forgotten when she wrote to me last I should have to examine the letters of bygone years to find the date I in great haste your affectionate Sister AR

among

Ch. Rivers
May 1812
Mic

Bangor

Mr. Isaac O. Metcalf
Bangor

Lombard

Dear Brother Milo Sept 25. 1845

I am both sorry and glad to learn that you have taken the school in Turner. Sorry because it really seems a pity for the want of a little money to be obliged to lose all the advantages of the fall Term on the other hand the money being mines it was certainly cause of gratitude that so good an opportunity presented itself for you to help yourself to what you must have and after all, if you do your duty, in the fear of God in the station in which you are placed there is no doubt His blessing will attend you and it may be it was altogether best for you to go. We dont know what is best for us and it is not for us to choose the way in which the Lord shall lead us It is enough that we are in His hand and if we see to it that we improve all the advantages which He bestows with an eye single to His glory are there not promises full and large, that we shall have all we need, and no good thing will be withheld from them that walk uprightly. No doubt you will be exposed to many temptations both where you are and at Brunswick but if you always remember who you are, where you are, & whither you are bound and ever bear in mind the injunction of the Apostle Be not conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind &c, you will be able to come off conqueror in every trial

I saw in a letter of yours to Mother you said, after enumerating several "bills payable," I dare not calculate more exactly. I know that failing I see much before me to be done, but not how to do it seems to be fair out, but not where to get it but I dont feel discouraged neither should you. I have always had all I needed, so have you, we are

Could you know that all the U. S. Agent gave me the refusal of the contract of the Chickasaw Nation, & that when he left we were last spring? said I must pay the hundred dollars as soon as I could sell, I dont see how or when I can pay it, if they will wait till I can pay they will do and I must try.

both in the hands of him who has said "Trust in the Lord and I
doubt not we shall receive what is best for us. When I dont dare to look forward
I look back and see the way in which the Lord has led me and though he
has led in dark waters he has sustained me. Though all his waves are gone
over me I feel that I am in his hand and all his ways are just
and true. he has thus far supplied all our wants and I know that
in some way we shall still be supplied it may not be as I should
choose (I should be as likely to choose to my own hurt as any way) but
it will be in the best ways for Infinite Wisdom directs. At present
all that troubles me at all about getting along is I dont see how I can
pay up my debts, in the year for I cant sell what I could spare
if I could I could pay all up I think, but I have till March
and shall sell some hay and I think those without I cant pay I
can get to change the debt from the Estate to me so that I can settle
at the time specified by the Court so on the whole I dont worry
anything about it I paid $190 for using my having got the money with
hay, potatoes, & wool have paid a little debts, contracted no new debt and
intend to get nothing I cannot pay for when I get it, except I have
engaged some gravestones and have paid but 7/ on them yet I can
have them by sending for them and wait for pay I thought when I
engaged them I could easily pay it this Summer or Fall but dont know
as I can If I was you with your credits, health, & debts, I
would not trouble myself anything about money I would earn what
I could and borrow the rest if I could, it would take but little while
after you get through College to earn it what I must have if I could
not borrow I would stay out of school to earn. There will be some
way opened for you as fast as you need to go Trust in the Lord
and do good so shalt thou dwell in the land and verily thou shalt
be fed Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him and he shall

bring it to pass. My advice to you in your present situation would be to stand firm in what you know to be right whether it avails or would not render you popular. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of Wisdom but the fear of man bringeth a snare choose for yourself the most pious and good for companions and be known yourself as a decided consistent Christian.

There is a strange contradiction in man the impenitent will try to induce the Christian to join them in those pleasures &c which are of doubtful tendency and feels justified themself by the countenance he receives from the Christian at the same time that he feels that the Christian is inconsistent and worldly minded. His light is hid under but the living, active, devoted Christian, although his company may not be sought by the gay and thoughtless, will exert an influence that must be felt, he is a living epistle known and read of all men; and those who see him will feel that he walks with God. O that we may so walk before him that "God, even our own God shall bless us."

Sept 28 Eliab has been home a week seemed to be in good health and spirits but I am afraid for him, that he will not grow in grace so fast as in a knowledge of the things of this world I guess Frank is not pious but dont know. I can write no news about the state of religion here for it is as it has been, few attend the meetings, and when one more prop shall be removed, it seems that they cannot be sustained, but we must lean upon the Lord; vain is the help of man. Mr Scarll has a mission here once in 3 weeks we have occasionally a Baptist preacher and Mr Spaulding once in 4 weeks when he is able to preach. 4 weeks ago was a rainy Sabbath no congregation we had Mr Lee & Lucy & I were the meeting, the next was communion Sabbath rainy Sabbath Still very few there, the next sabbath rather rainy Dont know as any body went to dig fine 7 men in morning & afternoon & a few women & children

(Oct. 1st. attended Mr Lee's intended to finish meeting yesterday but got cut short not return one very poor guess I shant have any in a month

While I am confessing my sins I ought to say I feel grateful to God that these children of the Brethren and Sisters of the God of the Brethren and Sisters of the Faith has given me a desire to attend upon the ordinances of the Saints Almanac

Mrs. J. K. Sparks

The widows are doing the stage carrying the stock killed 12 for 1 man and 16 per E Yeomans 6 for Brown &c &c I went down to get Everett to take the 9 belonging to him now it appears the widows want to have before Nov. when the note is due he was accommodating took them this week we are well the children speak of you so often that even little Lizzy thinks much of you says she love Uncle Isaac down to Brunswick and the children ask when will Uncle Isaac come Lizzy wont have it that you are at Turners says no down to Brunswick she sings correctly more than a dozen tunes to some of them she knows 2 or 3 verses James digs potatoes as fast as we can the hens and pig can eat digging from 12 to 22 bills to fill a bbl quite fast

Charles has been most sick all Summer is better now the rest are well

Oct. 14th 1845

Oct. 10 1845

Dear Sir I have received your letter of the 7th inst. and am glad to hear that you are well and that you have had a good time gathering your apples I am also glad to hear that you have had a good chance to sell your cider and that you have got the money for it I am also glad to hear that you have had a good time gathering your apples and that you have had a good chance to sell your cider and that you have got the money for it

Oct. 22d 1845

James

Boston Dec. 15 1846

Dear Brother

I have just received a letter from Mother informing that you are going to Yale College this month if you go before I go to Sutton I want to see you here Opposite 32 Elliot St. I cannot now tell when I shall go must stay till Lizzy gets well enough to bear the cold & journey for you must know that she has been sick nigh unto death the Doctor gave her up said medicine could not help her nurse Buswell said nothing short of miracle could save her and Mrs Metcalf & others thought she was struck with death. A short time before the ~~fistus~~ which was thought to be dying struggles came on she smiled upon me and wanted to kiss me put up her arms and hugged me then turned to Lucy who was standing the other side her bed and smiled upon her when she came round and she put up her arms and hugged and kissed her then asked me to take her but before I could, sunk down entirely exhausted lay a short time with her eyes closed when she opened them unconscious and threw her arms and herself about so that it was hard work to hold her I took her in my lap and sung her favorite hymn to her, (There is a path that leads to

God,) it seemed to quiet her and soon as she became wholly conscious she laid down so completely exhausted that Mrs Metcalf said she was just as her children were her struggles were over and she thought she would sink away till she stopped breathing she could live but a short time but to the surprise and joy of all she gradually breathed easier before morning I felt there was a chance for her life she had the lung fever and was much distressed for breath, for 2 days before the turn her breathing had been such as to be heard into another chamber through 2 closed doors. She was taken Sat Nov 28 Thursday eve your Thanksgiving from 5 to 7 o'clock was the turn of her fever but the Dr did not pronounce her out of danger till Tuesday a week to day Sunday I dressed her & to day she is down stairs the Dr called 15 times but he says it was not medicine that saved her that it is very rare for one with both lungs inflamed to recover Truly the Lord is good to us O that we may be grateful and not forget his mercies If we are away before you come why cant you stop at Sutton the Milbury cars would carry you almost there and the stage from railroad take you direct to Rachels neat house beyond James Freelands, Rachel you know is Mrs Linus Thompson in Sutton I have not yet been out much dont know whether Cousin Caleb is in town or not shall know soon, if Lizzy continues to gain mean to call round some Mr Bush & wife have been very kind I have not yet called upon them

Do you know Lucy has gone to Bangor to spend the winter? now Charles ought to take Albina home to help Mother

16th Am going down to Mrs Metcalf's to day if I can learn any tidings of Caleb will send you the news

Caleb is teaching the high School in Worcester

I guess you can find him if you try

write me immediately when you go so that I may know and not go the day before you we could go up in the cars together part way at least

Affectionately A. R. Seavey

Mrs. A. R. Pearce
Boston
Dec. 15th 1846

Mr. Isaac S. Mitchell
Brunswick Me.

Dec. 18th 1846
Oldham
Boston

Milo Jan 21, 1852

Dear Annie

Mother says you would be willing to spend time to read a letter from me if I can't say any thing of any importance So I will begin with telling you about our farming works. We planted corn on both ends of the piece and potatoes in the middle. It was so wet that we could not hoe it till about the middle of July. It grew very fast indeed, and if the frost had not come so soon, we should have had a very good crop. The potatoes did very well, we had five barrels. We had about 12 bushels of Apples this year. Mr Hooter and Joseph Sargent and Edmund & I we may did our haying this summer. they got it in good order. The Sabbath School of Brownville had a celebration on the fourth of July, and invited the Milo Sabbath School. We should have had a very good time if it had not rained, and as it was we had a

with good times they had a picnic in Dea Browns barn because of the rain. On the 12 of Aug there was a Menagerie at Dover I went to see it. They had two Elephants, two Rhinoceros, and several Tigers, and Lions from Asia, Africa, and America, a Grizzly and a Black Bear, and a stuffed white one, a Sacred Hog from Hindoostan, a Panther, Hyenas, Antelope, Zebra, and a lot of Monkeys, and Alligators a great sea Turtle, that weighed over four hundred pounds, some Parrots, and other birds. We had a very good School taught by Mr Lyman Keay. It began the first of November and kept nine weeks.

The skunks were very plenty in our neighborhood last summer. One came to our barn and killed ten chickens, and another night he came for more chickens but mother heard them and went out and scared him away when he had killed, but three. Uncle Elias and I set a trap for him but did not catch him for he went down to Mr Nicholas Charles and Uncle Elias shot him as they got the essence. They shot three there last summer. I killed one by putting strychnine into an egg, he died without leaving any essence.

your affectionate nephew

James R Charles

Friday 23

Dear Brother

I find James is not going to fill this sheet so I will help him instead of taking another sheet now we are all shivering with the cold nowadays I think I have not known such long continued severe weather Almost every night for 2 or 3 weeks water has frozen more than a quarter of an inch thick on the pail near the stove and we leave fire burning when we go to bed we carry fire down cellar twice a day and still potatoes and apples freeze very badly. The children are singing what they can but it takes James a good deal of his time to do the chores and keep us in wood the wood is large beech and splits hard and some days he cant stay out more than 20 or 30 min without warming I think of sending Lucy to school some where soon Elijah say he wishes to have her go and will pay her board & tuition Lucy says she may come there and attend high school when she is qualified I dont know yet whether when she will go Lucy and James are attending singing school and it is about time for them to go and James is so much in a hurry to send off the little mail that I hurry down a few words without order or thought next time I write I will take more time than between sunrise & dark I should have done so now but thought James would not

I received the stamps and envelopes you sent me Tuesday for which please accept my thanks I will take envelopes / use of paper

Mr. Abraham Jones
Esq.

Jones Inn, Tuesday, 21, 1833

Hon. Abm. D. C. Mallory

Governor of Illinois

Mr & Mrs. Rider Brownville
Jan 19-1853

Dr Lucia Oct-1863—

Brownville Jan 19th 1853

Dear Brother and Sister

For the first

I am writing to you thought perhaps if you write often it may not be the last and that you must do whether I write or not if you are away in a new place daily observing new things as well as living a new life and perhaps can find something new to write often, while I am away down east where new things are pressed away and almost every thing has become old though there are changes here and there in its course much is still running on and carrying us onward through its often varying scenes to our final resting place I often look back with pleasure on that short call you made me in August last since then you know my situation and circumstances have changed happily, changed I find in my new relations all and more than I could reasonably expect and so far as I know there is nothing but perfect satisfaction. on all hands we are all in our usual health and so are all your friends here Mr Dunbar was here last night as he was passing from Millinocket Lake to Bangor his wife and sister Anna were here a few days since quite as well as usual

my wife is gone this afternoon to my son Fallens where they have a young daughter not three weeks old they are very comfortable I expect she will return home soon and fill up this sheet if not more write soon and often and let us know how you fare and how all the good people fare negroes and all for I take particular interest in that portion of the population

your brother Gilman Priest

Dear Brother & Sister

I have so long neglected writing that I hardly know how to begin I wanted & and intended to write soon as I heard of your arrival at your place of destination but I have had my time so fully occupied that I have put off day by day — not put off thinking of and caring for you, but writing, and I by no means expected so long time would elapse before you would hear from me. When ye first came we had a good deal of company, had no time for anything, then there has been all the time as much to do as I could attend to, we have every thing convenient so that it is easy to do work nevertheless you know I am slow and it takes me a long time to do it

I have not got acquainted with our nearest neighbors but like those from about the village

with whom I have made acquaintance quite well.
The distance to meeting seems somewhat less than at
first, for 5 miles is not much with a fleet horse
and a good driver, and then the difference between
Mr Sewall's preaching and such as I heard in Mich
is something You know I had some doubts and
sorry feelings about coming here but I can see
now that the good hand of the Lord led me and
I am satisfied it is for our good that we came and
by it our happiness is increased

We have a short school taught by a woman this
winter we board the teacher, and have a good school
Charlie has been here about four weeks and I think
he learned finely Samuel took him home last night
as he came out of the woods. he has been as happy
as a kitten all the time, but was highly delighted
to go home again said he wanted to see his little
Sister most of any body. he would not believe our
little Grand-daughter was half as pretty as "Sister"
Charlie was quite still in school, and as soon as
he got home, it was amusing to see him let off the
pent up steam we shall miss him some

As for little Josie every time I go there he walks
up to me as "perpendicular" as ever and looks up
into my face so pleased, I love to look at him

I wrote to Mr Pratt and he gave me the notes
and mortgage on the place for $1100 and Mr Henry
Sargent bought it giving $275 for it to be paid on

in two payments, in two years (he paid $20 of it ~~first~~ fall)
We attended Conference in Monson last month it was
a very interesting meeting Dr Tappan was there and
added much to the interest of the meeting Old Father
Sawyer was there and spoke quite energetically upon
the importance of reform in our common schools
It was quite cold yet he went ~~over~~ 30 miles to attend
the meeting, few men of 97 can do it
It has been a time of some religious interest
in Brownville, in the fall some 10 or 12 expressed
hope at the time of the Methodist Quarterly meeting
and the meetings of the following week most of
the converts belong to our meeting and are children
of members of our Church quite recently there have
been 3 or 4 more cases of hopeful conversion among us
we have quite an interesting Bible class. Dea. Thomas, teacher
There has been for four years a weekly meeting in ~~this~~ the Congregational
church for prayer for the children of the church members
and in that time there has been so many conversions
among those children that it seems an evident answer
to prayer. How strange, how very strange that when we
see how large the promise, and how gracious the answers
to prayer, we have still so little faith, so feeble prayers
The Meetinghouse in Milo was dedicated about 3 weeks
since the pews sold well and Mr Crven I understand
will make something for his trouble $100 or 200 I think
Mr Follet has moved into Milo on the Jesse Livermore farm
and preaches 2 or 3 fourths of the time
William Brown has gone to Minnesota if he succeeds to
his mind will move his family, in that case, Mr Lee will go
either to Bucksport or Templeton - Mr Isaiah Rider is quite
sick will probably live but a short time his only
daughter buried her husband last fall

Jilmans Rider Jeannette Brownville Illinois March 24 1854

Mar. 24 '54

Dear brother and sister

It snows today and blows some which makes it unpleasant out but it is pleasant and quite comfortable in the house by a good rock maple fire with the doors and windows shut. I suppose you recollect something of New England snow storms in March and April as you travel through the west now adays but be assured there is no mud here to trouble us and I dont know when there will be any for the snow is 15 feet deep and coming and by the side of our house it is 2 feet above the top of the windows but we are expecting a thaw soon and settle the snow and if it dont come before I guess daydays will give it a start

The June last winter was a cold hard winter on the west. The fore part of March was very mild and had the appearance of spring but for several days past it has been cold and stormy business of all kinds is brisk the only difficulty seems to be to get men to do the work money is plenty and in free circulation and everything bears a high price so far as money matters are concerned people in this part of the country may do well at present the merchant can sell his goods for any price he ask for the

the former may still be in the ascendancy for ready pay and a high price almost every one seems to be busy and it a hurry going on with railroad speed in the enjoyment of pleasure or the accumulation of wealth even our Congress men are riding rough shod over the plighted faith of the north and the south and stinking out with a dash the most solemn engagements thus furnishing not for consultation and discussion for all classes of the people the doings of the present congress perhaps has awakened more interest on the subject of slavery than any thing that has taken place before I think there has never been such general and deep feeling of opposition to any thing that has been done by our congress on the subject of slavery as is felt on the passage in the senate of the Nebraska bill and we hope that it will be the means of opening the eyes of the north to see to what length the slave power will go to extend and perpetuate that institution and drag them into the support of it if it should have the effect to awaken the north so that they shall feel the weight of obligation resting upon them in this matter and cause them to rise in their strength to oppose it we may have cause to rejoice at it though at present it seems so undesirable

think

I don't of much to write that I think would be interesting to you we are here very much in our usual circumstances Elbridge Jane, and Fannie are at home there is been in the woods for Mr Dunbar this winter ... of to Mills to school Will has been at home this winter but is now at Hancock at school we are all in our usual health Dea. Brown is very much out of health and has been all winter the fore part of winter he was about do more business than usual for him but seemed somewhat deranged until about the first of Feb when he was taken down with what was thought consumption with a severe cough and swelled limbs but the swelling and cough have much abated since he is more comfortable but it is very doubtful whether he recovers it is a general time health in this region but there has been several sudden deaths in this vicinity one man was frozen to death in Sebec one man dropped down dead at the Iron works and one in the woods and was taken alive in the woods and died before he could be got out and one was so hurt by the falling of a tree that he died in a few days Doc. Hamlin Thomas has sold his place in Brownville and moved with his family to Bangor my brother Isaiah died after a long and distressing sickness

that God in his providence is removing by sickness removal and death the efficient members of our Church and at present there are none coming forward to fill this places but we still enjoy the ministrations of the Gospel and we hope for the outpouring of the holy spirit to bless the preached word and bring others forward to fill the places of those who have left us

Jonathan Poe and his wife are here in usual health with their daughter we have not heard from Nile for several days the last we heard they were in their usual health Mr Jacobs was here last week is passing this way often as he goes into the woods he feels rather proud of his boy as I suppose you do of yours I suppose you both think such boys are scarce I have not heard any thing from Pembroke for some time my health is pretty much as when I was there a short time ago and how returned but I have not seen him since his return if I recollect right you owe me a letter I have not written to you this winter but I expect you will write soon all of you do not disappoint us I guess by the time you have read all that I have written you will want to stop and rest a while and so I will stop here

yours &c Gilman Bridges

Glenola. Evansville Apr. 20. 1874
Dunbarton. Apr. 18 1874

Evansville Apr 20: 1874

Dear Sister -

It is now a very long time since any communication between us that I do not know but I am for- gotten, but if I am thought of half as often as I think of you it is far from being the case. I have written very little for the last year I have been all so hurried with work, and much of the time have felt so sad, that it was a task for me to write at all, and I would keep putting it off from day to day

I hear from you occasionally, through Ruth, and very and am troubled that your health is so poor I am anxious that you should come east and see if you cannot get some strength. How much I want to see you and the little boy when you have been a while at your Fathers and have recovered your strength I hope to welcome you here

I do not understand whether Isaac can remain ~~here~~ for a while or not, when you come I have only heard that he is coming with you, and am very glad to hear it

I have for a long time been feeling that you ought to come. I had a letter from Emma this week in which she says she is coming in May and expects you & Isaac will come at the same time that will make it pleasant and easier for you as she can assist in taking care of the babe Mr Wilson's eldest son Walter Harris was very much out of health last summer and fell as though he would never get along in his work, so he left out last fall and the second son thought it he went in to the woods to work in a shanty last winter and Sally and I have

staid with us. it has been quite a comfort to us to have them here I am so fond of children and you know a babe in a house is a well spring of pleasure
She is a very pleasant woman I like her much and am really sorry Walter could not stay on his farm then I should have had her for a neighbor. He has gone to Mich to do what he can on Charles farm and this week he took Sally with him so I have lost my baby. I am now trying Jane and if I can get along with her I shall keep her this summer or longer. but she is not like my Lucy - She has been here two days and so far takes hold of the work as well as she can but her talk will be no benefit to Lizzie if she has any influence over her. Lizzie is now a real good girl and a great comfort to me.

We have a great plenty of snow yet a week ago I rode down to the village some of the way the road as high as the top of the fences and most of the way probably 2 feet above the ground, there is no spot of bare ground to be seen yet but most of the tops of fences are visable and in one place I can see three rails I think on an average about half the fence is above the snow - Lucy has again had a bad back she overdid as she says and it has brought on her old lame back so that when she wrote she was unable to take care of her babe but she wrote as feeling that she should soon be better, that what she needed was rest- she will always need to be careful if she don't she will have to suffer for it I am anticipating much pleasure a visit from her this summer and from Anna also. How happy we should be if you were well enough to come with them
Isaac please write to me I am away off here and it would do me good. When you can I hope you will always write both of you and now will we see when you can with much love wishes affectionately

Ellbridgeville
Dec. 29 1855

Brownville Dec 29/55

Mr Metcalf

my mind
has been not a
little on the subject
ever since I
saw you last fall.
& by & by I made up
my mind. I shall
be able to go if all
is well. I have
written to
Smith
& I can get employ
ment I shall
Smith
says that he can
board me for

or I can take
charge of a short
section of railroad
line & thereby
thoroughly educate.
I have been informed
and by good authority
that there are
but few graduates
from colleges that
are before them
in mathematics.
I do not know
what I can do
until I try. I
am going to
Englewood
I shall do
what ever I think
I can for the best
interest to do
this. I have the
best wishes
of Lou & all
our friends Blaine

Sunday morning I must just tell
you how splendidly I got through
night — last night. Edith was
up writing a letter when I left her
waked, just before Eleven, in the
Evening — She got one to sleep at
& I the other without waking
either and that was 8. o'clock
& us till morning — Such a sensation
of warmth & comfort & rest as
I felt when I waked! It was
delicious — I had not once changed
my places during the night —
She was quite well this
morning — Do write me fully
how your own health is I want
you to grow quite well fast
& to come home very quick
I hardly Even dare ask if I cannot
your letters this week I guess
all the while you will come just
as soon as you can — Nitten

Evansville Apr 17 1856

Dear Brother & Sister

It is now a fortnight since I received your letter I certainly did not intend to let so long a time slip away before writing but my time has been very fully occupied I had clothes to make to fit James for his summers visit (he has gone to Charles's) and my ordinary work about house & making & mending and besides the baby was so near sick with the hooping cough that it took very nearly the whole time of one to take care of him he has not pretended to get down on the floor to play for 4 or 5 weeks. Day after day I have gone about my work in the morning with a determination that I would find time to write at least one letter in the course of the day, and after all I would have to put it off till tomorrow The baby has had the cough 6 weeks took it of William Heath the boy that lives with us Walter & Elmer

cough

hard if Will has had it, it was light he has not coughed as hard as he did 2 years ago this winter, Louisa has been coughing some 2 or 3 weeks but not hard & we dont know whether it is hooping cough or not

They have the mumps over beyond here but we are trying to avoid them for Mr Fuller has been somewhat troubled to swallow ever since he had that operation by Dr Shephard and I am afraid if he should have the mumps hard he would not live through them Our visit at Bangor this winter proves to have been of no avail so far as healing his face is concerned the sore under his jaw runs as much as ever it did & more than when we went to Bangor, Still I feel better about it than I did before going, for Dr Mc Keen says there is no cancer in it now, and that the running is either caused by clotted blood left in the wound or by the action of the part of the gland that was not removed Dr Mc K did his best to destroy the gland when we were there but did not suc-

cead. he says if it continues to run it will in time become cancerous from the irritation. he did not like to venture on an operation to remove the remains of the gland because the parts had been deranged by the former operation and he said he did not know when to find them it would be difficult & dangerous & Mr Rider would not consent to have another operation. It was so difficult for him to swallow before that he thinks the swelling would strangle him. Dr Mc Innes says Mr Riders skin is evidently better and he spoke more encouragingly about his being cured of his cancerous affections than ever before.

Walter has got so he gets about the house with one cane out of doors with two; he can stand and thresh a little while at a time and cut wood and do other chores on a small scale., and last Monday Eldridge and Mills started off with them and came them home Mills went part way and E went down with them to get them nicely fixed after they got there. Walter has all his grain to thresh and a good many things

he could be doing little by little before his Springs work comes on Mills will probably go down by and by and help him some about getting in his crops

It seems very odd to be all alone in the house with no noise (except the old cat calling her kitten) hour after hour - I should like to have Lizzie near enough for me to speak to her now and then but as she cannot send her to a good school just at home I am very thankful that a way is open for her to go ~~at~~ Bangor and yet I dont know as she had better stay for Lucy is quite out of health a fortnight ago she wrote me in pencil on the bed but said she was getting better and day before yesterday a letter from Lizzie says she was getting better fast when she was attacked with Neuralgia and had not sat up for 3 days but she said she is some better

You say I suppose you hear from Mother occasionally. it is very occasionally she has written to me once since she went to Chicago. Home, was quite interesting to me & I think it would have been if I had never known or heard anything of it but had been an entire stranger to its author & its contents I should be exceedingly glad to visit at Sunbarton while you are there & if I can you may be sure I shall & think of it often but I do not know whether we can, or not

affectionately your sister Almeda

Brownville Aug 27 '56

Dear Sister

I told you I would write soon thinking then it would sooner than this I suppose you hear from Lucy often, do you have any hope that she will recover? I have not heard from her since the 13th

Mr Rider's face grows worse continually the jaw bone separated last week ~~and~~ but only a short time at the time it was very painful and all the time very sore it hurts him to move the muscles of his face he cannot of course move his jaw he takes liquid food it hurts him to swallow or speak but is not as sore as it was last week, and he can talk better than he could but there is no probability that he will live many weeks and I feel that it is uncertain whether he lives a single day he works every day when it is pleasant out ~~on~~ the field

I do not feel as well as when I was at Dunbarton. Mr Burns had a good deal of ~~—~~

company lately 18 [illegible] 2 weeks and
some the week before, they came because
the Rides can go nowhere and he likes
to see them, though he dont like to go
We shall probably have a good deal of
company as long as he is able to enjoy
it. I like to have them come. I have
many sad feelings, and many sad forebodings
Mr Jotham Tidi has come to see his
brother I am glad of it

affectionately Amanda

Florida Jacksonville

Sept. 27 1864

Dear Aunt

Brownsville Sept 12.

My Brother my Sister

what can I say to you
It is indeed a severe blow, my tears flow in
and for you, and my prayer is that you may
be enabled to draw near to the hand that has
smitten, and bowing humbly before His throne
receive comfort and consolation, from Him
who alone can give consolation in this
trying hour

Our afflictions are multiplied upon us,
following quickly one after another. Surely we
ought to lay it to heart, but shall we not also
remember the great goodness of our God in that
he has not called us to mourn as those who
without hope. He has, as we trust taught us
where to look for strength when afflictions press
heavily upon us, and has promised his ever
lasting arm for our support. He has taken
many from our number, of whom, we have not
good hope, that our loss, is their unspeakable
gain. Father, Husband, Brother, Daughter,
Sister, Son, and Infants; all washed in the

blood of Christ and gone to join the innumerable host of worshippers around the throne. We may not weep for the departed, they are happy, they need not our tears, but with sad hearts and lonely, we weep for ourselves

Will you not join with me in prayer for my remaining children, they have no hope in the Saviour, and for Charles, if he has hope, he does not express it, and for all the children of our families, that they may early enter into the service of the Redeemer, and at last be accepted of him in his kingdom

Mr Rider is more comfortable than when I wrote last. For about a week after the jaw bone separated his face was very sore (and it is now of course) but now, it does not hurt him to swallow as much as it did, and for a number of days he has been able to take soft food, that he could swallow without chewing

He suffers very little pain and rests all the time, still we feel that he is liable to die from any hour, and that he cannot continue long the cancer is nearly through into his mouth

so near that his breath smells like the cancer.
I fear it will get so that he can take no n
ment. It is dreadful to think of. It is wonde
that he is so comfortable, when in such condi
surely we ought to be thankful for it

Are you going to Phila to live or to visi
Write to me often.

I received yours last night also one from
Bangor saying that Lucy's babe is dead, it
died the 10th.

your affectionate Sister Almeida

Nicholas Ryder to Fromentin

Oct. 25 1856

Brownsville Oct 25th 56

Elmwood. Brownville Nemaha Co. Nebraska Mar 24. 1858

Brownville Mar 24. 1858

Dear Brother

Mr Rider has entered into that rest which he has so long panted for, and longed for. Some of the last part of his life his sufferings were very severe, but were somewhat alleviated by the use of laudanum, still he said, "he hoped he would not say he had been a great sufferer," He had such peace of mind, such resignation and trust that he said he had "enjoyed as much this winter as ever he did, no doubts, no fears, all was [illegible]

I never before saw a friend die I was so willing to have go. We could not wish him to live in his condition. but now, we miss him, and shall feel our loss more and more, as we cannot see and feel his sufferings. He died Tuesday, March 10

I was at Bayyon last week felt very sad Sam'l was packing his things to go to Minnesota, nothing about the house looked as it used to when Lucy was there

I understand you have a prospect of taking charge of a long railroad If you do I wish you would employ Mills if you have anything

which he could do and which would be advantageous to him. He is wanting to go out west and offers to sell out here to Jasies & I at such price that we can pay him without going in debt. Farm, stock, tools, and everything that his Father gave him. I objict because it is worth more, but he says it will be better for him, than to stay here, or than anything else he can do, to have me pay him what we can and let him go west I am sure you could not get a better hand for anything he is qualified to do than Will, and if you will help him to a good situation [illegible] oblige me, He will stay and work here till you want him, if you want him, if you dont want him, he will stay work here till fall and then go and seek his fortune in the west, will you write as soon as you can and let us know whether there is a probability of your wanting Will, and as near as you can when, for two reasons, so that we may make arrangements about work at home, and so that I can give Elisha and Charles what notice I can as C has all my money and Chas $60 of James they & Samuel think we had better buy here

I shall give Mills more than he asks because I can but cannot tell just how much till I see how much we can sell for cash

Mother, Charles, Samuel and Eliab think it will be better for James to stay here a few years than to go west or any where away at present & so do Mills & I and Mills says he wishes us to have the place so low that when James is old enough if he wishes to go to go west he can sell for as much as we give or more besides giving us a home and good living in the mean time

James & I both feel incompetent, it seems a great thing to carry on this great farm and I dont know what is best for us to do The Brownville people will of course feel not well pleased at the arrangement they will be sorry to lose Mills, and as for myself I do really suppose that if the climate agrees with him and he is fortunate he can do much better for himself than to stay on this hard farm and he says if he finds a good chance out there he will send for us to go and settle by him

If he is not healthy he will of course come back

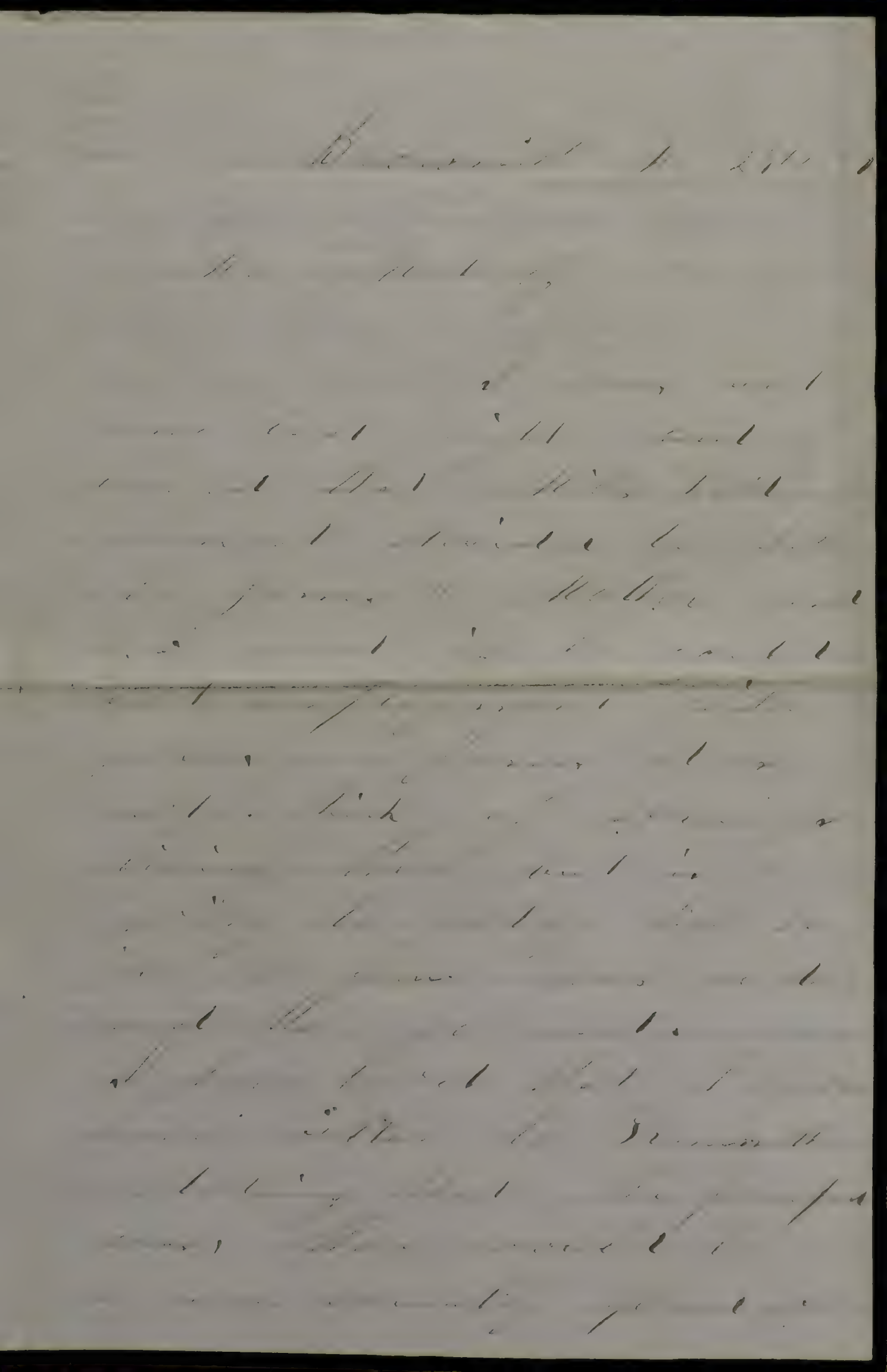
I was at a meeting at Mr Nasons a week ago last night it was very interesting but it seems to be the feeling that the interest has rather decreased in the community those who have hope that they have chosen the good part do not seem to lose their interest, they have a meeting among themselves one each week which is I am the young peoples meeting and they are very much engaged and active in those meetings but there seems no new cases of conversion at least I have heard of none for some time

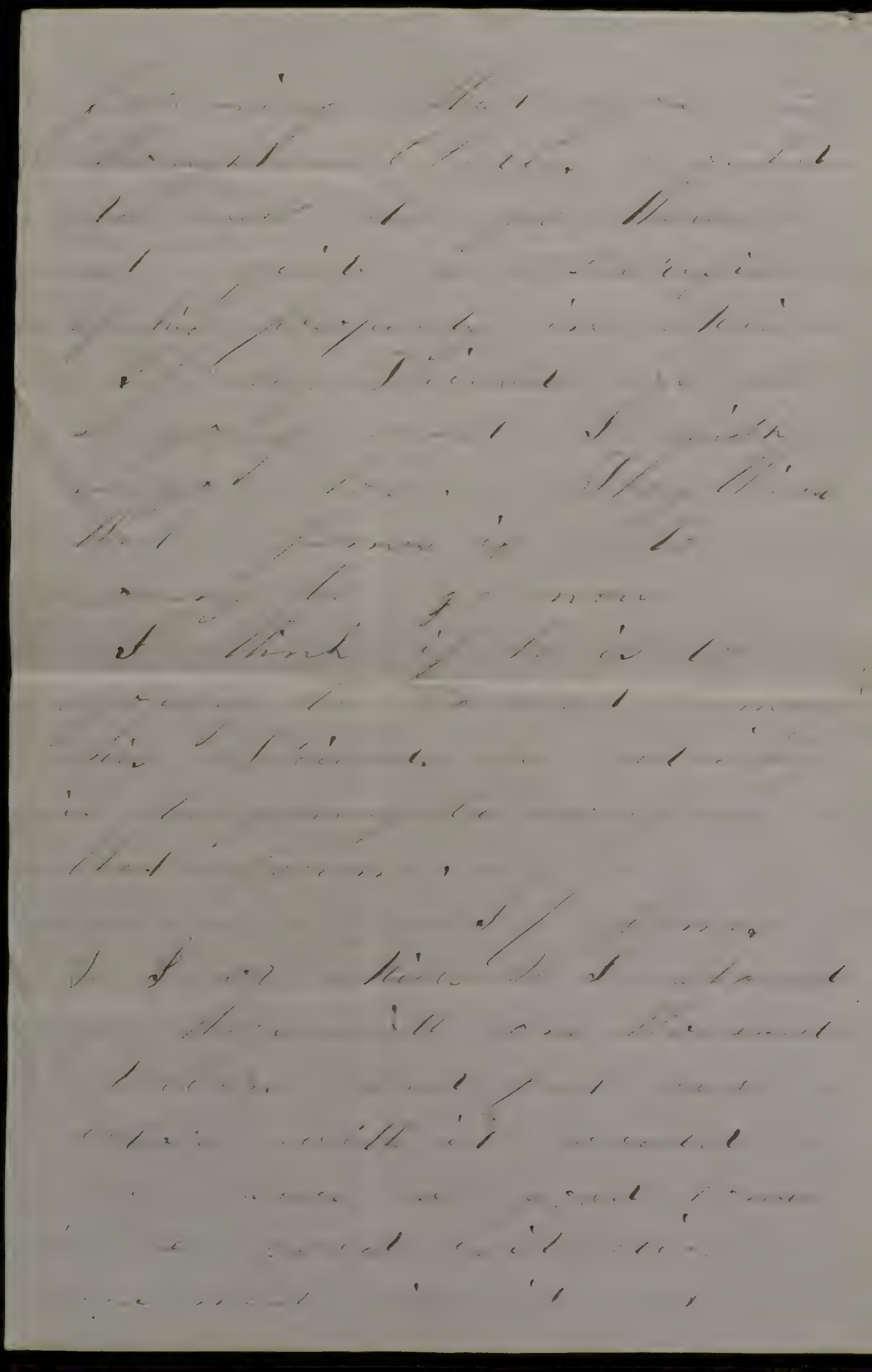
I did hope and feel that Eldridge and Mills would take the yoke of Christ upon them this gracious visitation of the Spirit and and enter into his service. O that they may, and James too I am afraid that James will feel more than ever that he has no time to attend to religion. Until the heart is enlisted it is very easy to put off

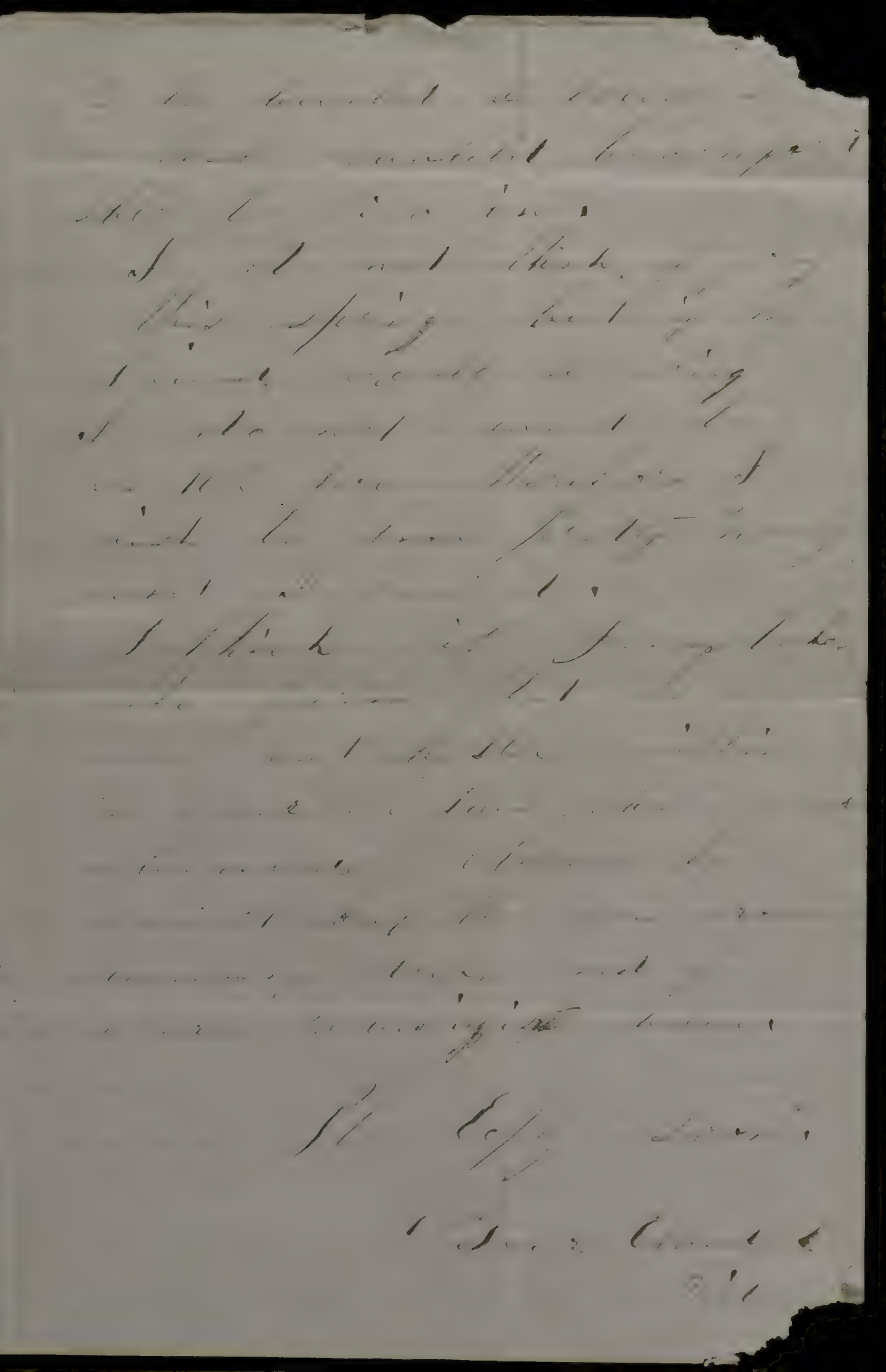
Lizzie still hopes she has an interest in the Saviour but has not that assurance of hope which she would like

I received letters from Nettie and Anna for which I am much obliged give much love to them both from me and Lizzie

James is at Mr Everetts will be home soon I expect. Our present family is Mills & Lizzie and I. We are lonely affectionate Minnie







E. Ryder
Brownville March 29, 1885
Elysian

Mrs Thos Edmeades Bournebridge
Epping
Essex

Monday
Rome 11 June 1855

I could, I think, pretty easily therewith
finance it so as to liberate myself from my present
debt. if it is best — but is it — I still think
he means to get away from Ohio — if so it
might be expedient for him to go & count
out I doubt whether he ever will get away —
the taxes in Ohio almost 5 per cent per annum
always must stand & then there
has been a great energy & vexation the
[illegible] we can all up and run [illegible]
[illegible] some considerable property [illegible]

Almeda. Brownville
Sept 1/67

Elgren

Dear brother Isaac

I am much obliged to you for the good news I wish you much joy and comfort in the little Stranger may he be spared to be a blessing to his parents for many years I should be so glad to see him and his mother as well as all the rest of you I can think of you as taking a great deal of comfort there this summer so near together. I like your plan of fixing up your house to your mind and making it a permanent residence It will be so nice and comfortable for Millie to be by mama when you are away I do not understand whether you have decided to give up railroading or not Sarah thought when she was here that you would go in the Spring upon some railroad

The boys are getting along quite well with their work they have got in all the wheat and part of the oats and have done some ploughing The hay was most of it well secured the wheat is somewhat "pinched" I believe is the term, the rust injured it and so did the weevils some The corn they call small but if frost holds off we shall probably have a really good crop the potatoes not worse than they have done usually

Elbridge has bargained away his farm expects he can sell it next month to close up the bargain and take possession he is a New Hampshire man, name Lovejoy, he has a daughter the eldest 14 years old

about the time Eldridge sold his place he had the
western fever pretty strong but he is somewhat cooled
now and I dont know what he will decide to do I
believe he would not care much if the team should fail
to come. The reports from the west that crops are not
as favorable as they were, and many who have gone from this
vicinity are disappointed and discontented

This place is lonely enough and far enough away but I suppose
there are many places out there, whose only advantage over our
place is that the land is easier to work. It seems lonely, very
lonely out here now, and it probably will be more so when
Mills goes away.

The new bridge is about completed so we shall not be obliged
to go round so far when we go to mill. We have no prospect
of having a chance to get grinding done here, they do nothing
about rebuilding the dam & we shall have to go to Mills to
mill till next year

Yesterday there was a party of 15 or 16 with 6 birch canoes
went to Schoodic to stay a week the Moosehead Stage
and the three wagons conveyed the crew & xxxx from C. Y.
and Bro'n and Dover. I suppose they expect a jolly time
there are no flies to trouble them we have had but very
few flies at all this summer

Must love to Emma & Hattie have not time to write much
now but will try to write to them sometime and
I want you should all write to me, remember I am away
off here alone & lonely no brothers or sisters or any body
else that I can run in and see when I choose but every time
I go the horse must be caught and harnessed but I love to read letters
from home

Amelia
Bunnell Fla
Elyria

Bunnell Fla. 1891

Dear Ella

I have determined that I will write to you some and let every day be wet. I truly did not think so much time would pass before I should write, but each day brings its work, and sometimes I feel so tired that it seems a task to think of writing. After you were away I was almost sick for a few days, had a very severe cold and was altogether quite "miserable," but I have on the whole been better than I was last Summer. I have had no one but Lizzie to help me. have made 12 loaves. As soon as it was cool enough to make good butter I left making bread it is hard work and I dont like to make longer than I am obliged to. You say you dont get any news from Maine so perhaps you have not heard how Uncle and family took me to surprise one Monday after all were in bed but myself I heard a carriage stop at the door, I supposed it was one of the neighbors returning from the village and stepping to hear me a bell, went to the door to get it and found "It's only us Aleda," (It was so dark I could not tell you can guess I was glad to see them Uncle and Minnie went back the next day. Hattie & Frank stayed until the next Monday noon. I was making them send my milk to take care of every day and was making hay rope with all my might because of the stormy weather & could not ride about as to in the lake & I do enjoy it so much and have never had

to do we rode down to the village once and that was all yet had not learned we were going town to Mrs Philbrooks to see the girls Hattie & Jessie walked up to Aldridges and one little Snow shanked it and ran up there Hattie overtook him at the gate, he was going in. he said gordon & Mary I guess he thought he had got home. There was a great deal of rainy weather all through the hay season and when all the hay we had out through one time & one, was only much as what we could do to by the caps. Hattie helped me about making them and take as it was when we got them ready they saved hay enough to nearly pay for them I've made up about 90 yds of sheeting and before the next hay season I think I shall make as much more.

I went down to Mrs last week they were all well Albion had a quilting the day after I went there or rather she had invited the neighbors to help quilt and I suppose it came I believe Charles is going to let Josie come over and stay a few days when the apples get ripe and I invited them to let Mary come and go to school this winter, School will begin in Oct, I suppose I dont know how long it will be. I think they will let her come She reads quite well I guess she will learn much more readily than the boys, I understood that they all learned quite well last summer

I felt very sorry to hear you go away with Samuel because your health was so poor and I am very glad to hear it is so much better than I feared it would be I hope it will entirely get through the summer but I know you so that the very difficulty will not appear if you I am very glad that Annie's health is good. What is the matter, does she need I feel that we must visit from you this summer that I wish you would write to me often, often, your daughter Rosella

Almeda

Jan. 29 58

Vacaville Jan 29. 58

Dear Brother Sister & Sister in

Law

I wonder

what is the matter that you dont write to

me at all. The last letter I had from you

was written when your babe was only

3 or 4 days old and it is the longer time

I had one of your good letters. I have

been looking for and hoping to get one

this long time. I want to hear all

about you just as much as if you

did not live so far from me. I have

some lonely hours when it would do me

real good to have letters from my friends

wouldnt you want letters if you lived away

out here where you could see your friends

so seldom? I very often think of you and

yours. but I can hardly realize that instead

of the plump little baby creeping around

with his brother (as I saw them) little Wilbur

is now a little older than either was that

that summer he was here. dear little Hugo
I shall not soon forget him Is little C.F.
him? have you named the little one and
what kind of a child is he. healthy and
good natured, strong and forward or what.
Is Jennie with you now or was she
returned to Lewiston?
I have been down with my own children
this winter Mills Bros is at work in the
quarry, or rather at the quarry, he drives the
horse that hauls up the slate from the quarry
I don't know what he will do in the spring
H. has wanted to buy the George Wilkins place
(on the road from Lea Browns to the Hodds might
[illegible]) if it was sold low enough and he
thought he would be able to [illegible], as it was said,
during the winter
it must be sold to pay the debts, but there
is some prospect now that the hill will not
be sold immediately and if so it will
probably be held above his means
If he cannot buy there I presume he

would be glad to come back as he proposed last fall, i.e. to buy me out, but he does not consider me under any obligation to sell out and he will probably not mention it again if I do not. He has concluded that he does not want to trade back and secure to me the thirds as it was at first, he would not trade now if I did not, but is unwilling to change the deeds again and give me the third, for the reason that he in part took last Spring got the deeds recorded

James has his hands quite full in taking care of every thing. We have 1 horse, a sick colt, 12 cattle, young and old, and between 20 and 30 sheep, with 2 or 3 little lambs

I think he has got up wood enough to last a year, and has begun his threshing, he has hired a man half a month to help him thresh. The wheat is very light grain thinks it quite discouraging to thresh so much straw for so little grain there was so much wet weather that the most almost spoiled the wheat. no, the wheat is good what there is of it but it destroyed most of the crop

A conference of churches was held at Greenville this winter. Mr Kean was here. He told me that Luther & Allen were at Amherst College. They are preparing for the ministry. Mr Kean asked me if I had any rich friends that I could influence to help them. You know what a solemn chilly look he has, Phil says he looks as if he never laughed in his life.

Eldridge lives by himself alone with his cat. he is in here once in a while. I think he would enjoy life better if he had a wife. Walter & his family as well. they have another daughter.

Lizzie had a hope that she was a christian last winter and spring but she has no hope now and does not manifest any particular interest in the subject. She, and James too, seem to wish to keep the subject out of their minds.

Pa is at times greatly discouraged about things at home as if they had determined not to do the Lord's will while he may be known. Our God is a prayer hearing and a prayer answering God. He invites us to lay our burdens and will not cast off any who come unto him through

affectionate son Silas

Almeda
Feb. 1st 1878
Elyria

Brownville Feb. 1 [illegible]

Dear Mother

I received your letter last Saturday eve. as I could not sit right down and answer it. I did intend to answer it the next week but did not get about it and I thought I would write to Isaac first, & have written one or two letters to him which I have not heard from and I don't want he should forget he has a sister here, so I write again

I do not remember whether I mentioned in my last that we have had very fine weather of late or not if I have not I am still entitled to claim that privilege as neither of us are perfect in the matter of remembering things. I think it is pleasant that we have much time necessarily occupied by our family cares It seems to me that we, Mother, have as much reason that I

Keep hoping you will write oftener than I find time to write. You know that away out here we live in the same round, same way, seldom anything new, and we hear but little news.

I suppose I could sell out to effie if I want to, if he should not buy the machine that plan, and I think it very doubtful, but I dont know as it would be best for James. it would undoubtedly be easier for me, as far as work and care are concerned to have effie own the farm and give me a sixth of the produce but perhaps not any pleasanter than to live as we do I have no doubt he would treat me kindly and well but it seems to me a great thing to have a young man of James age, away from home all the time working where he can find a future, he may imbibe infidel sentiments or become unsteady, a thousand ills that he would be more exposed to than he could be here. come to my mind and make me partial

after what I told Will last spring I felt
obliged to let him come back if he wanted
it, but I had not said I would sell my home
after his proposal to come back, when he thought
how the deeds must be placed to secure to me
my third he might. It would be too much
bother we would have to have somebody beside
ourselves to make out the writings and he said
he did not wish to come back so, if I would
sell out he would like to buy but not
without. he said he was foolish to sell and
if he had not he would not, he would have
me do just as I choose about selling
Samuel, under the impression that I was
under obligation to sell to him, advised me to sell
out & go to Will, prospect, staying here 4 years.
I don't know what he would think about it
now I am relieved from any obligation about it
"The prospect of spending my old age and all the
rest of James' manhood here," is not very
cheering, but can we do better, at least for
the present, than to stay here. If I do
sell to Will this Spring he will do
as they did with Heisely and we must wait
till [illegible] before we can sell

and should probably be unable to do so
under cover, all were money is dearer than
at present, but the farm is worth more, &
could sell for more than Mills would give

I do not think it very probable that Thos
can sell his place for enough to take his family
out East and locate himself where a more desirable
location than it now has. perhaps he could
not, if he could sell for all his place was worth
would it amount to suppose good situation
& good privileges are not to be
obtained for a trifle. I think it is Samuels opinion
that Thos is not so desirable a place
to live on, as it formerly, and he probably would
not if he was situated as well as Charles is to break
up & move out there, though he might get
a place where he could make more money

I think Charles is very comfortably settled
in life, and that after deducting the usual incidental
expenses of removing & selling and moving
he will hardly be able to secure better prospects
for his children than where they
are, if he was young, & his children all, it would
be different. I am expecting Isaac with
me a home with you in the Spring he has
the most time of any of the boys and
I want to see him & think he would take
pleasure in doing what we can
to assist him with his own and
we can't be sure that it will

Brownsville

July 28 '58

Brownsville Texas

Dear Brother

I have for a long time had many intentions of writing to you but somehow or other am leaving my letter still unwritten. Your last letter I received (not in time) mailed in Elgin, directed to Brownsville and remailed in Ohio. I waited upon receiving it to see whether I was likely again in your vicinity

I should be very glad indeed to meet you once more with you as you propose and but we were so situated this summer that he could not leave and I want you advise as to what we had better do next If still, when I return to want to come back I suppose it will be time to do so, and then the question arises will it still be best to keep together, and [illegible] question is the next which we can find, that suits within our means, but you go a few years and be to improve time, you able to our means you will I see here and live upon the rise of this place with a Well, last Spring there seemed to be [illegible] for all there is now except about [illegible] of Stock, and we are rather fearful that I should be [illegible] and you have work for [illegible] you

[illegible] I should [illegible] I might have to [illegible] I think I can, it would take me [illegible] you would [illegible] and you will [illegible]

It would suit to buy out at once. I do him last spring we would stay here till fall and in the mean time look about and see if we could procure for ourselves a comfortable home where James would be contented to stay and if we could he might come back — with money that James has earned and what Mills would pay
what we shall get for produce we could have probably from
to $ hundred dollars to buy with, beside our house stock &c &c
but not worth a little more than that but it is uncertain
Now what do you think? can I, with so small an amount of
money buy anything of a comfortable place and stock & furniture
out any where in your
in a small but comfortable way with what would remain of it
after paying us out to you. I do not wish to go to the poor house
I had rather stay east. I suppose that I should by no means
be in respect of increase our social or religious privileges by
going there. It would certainly be very desirable to get near
you and Anna if I had the means to do so, and if other sums
of which you speak places might be obtained where the advantages
in all important respects would be much greater than we can
have here, but I think [illegible] I do not [illegible]
[illegible] and I should be obliged to replace with
much more expensive that it is not very likely that we could
do so with it so we are there as we [illegible] Possibly, for we do not as yet find any place that seems desirable
that [illegible] we are able to buy [illegible]
I do not feel it a matter of duty to stay any where
should here I simply wish to do what will be for
the best, for [illegible] I feel more anxious than
to myself and it seems to me that it is [illegible] my duty

to try to secure for them, all the intellectual, moral
and religious advantages & opportunities which our
limited means will permit. It is not my ambition
to secure to ourselves a situation where we can get
rich I would like a comfortable competence, but
even this sinks into insignificance when compared
with the eternal welfare of my children If I could
only know in what place or situation their best
interests would be secured, I would not hesitate
on account of privations or hardships, but as I can
not know this, I must do what seems ~~most~~ to be
best, with all the information and advice I can
obtain — I seems to me that both my children
have for some months been trying to avoid the
subject of religion, they do not like to be
spoken to on the subject and are unwilling to
say anything about it I sometimes feel almost
discouraged about them if they could only be
brought to bow in submission to the Saviour
and be his devoted servants it seems to me all the
rest would be of small consequence, I feel that
nothing less than power divine can subdue the
opposition of their hearts, will you pray for them
unitedly and earnestly and ask Anna to also
I intend to write to her again soon

affectionately Almeda

Hil. Feb 13 1845

Dear Brother

I have but a minute to spare and will write a hasty note. you inquire whether I wish to live on sheep I suppose I had better sell the hay than to take care of more than my flock I raised 9 ewe lambs so that with Lucy's I shall have 15 sheep to winter and though if they do as well another year as they did last it would be some profit to keep them perhaps it would be better on the whole not to take them I want to pay all the small debts and I find by Mr Lee that the mortgage note is expected to be paid soon he said Mr Pratt said he would take 10 bl last Spring and inquired whether I had not some friend who would help me to it and wait on me till I could pay it It would seem therefore that he thought he gave me 75 I should make some exertion to pay the rest I hope to sell 3 or 4 or 5 tons of hay (shall sell my biggest heifer) and if I can get my employment by which I can be earning to support my family I think I might pay 25, on the note by the way Sam. Langer with $1.00, and and as I ask no allowance out of the estate I shall be held accountable for all I do not pay out in settling the estate and the man told me I must bring every man's receipt for what I paid him I wish you to make out your bill for the H. Dana was owing you and receipt it or in some way give me a receipt to carry in my

Almeida
Oct 13/15

Mr Joseph C. Stetson

Bangor

Milo June 25 1847

Dear Brother

Mr Greenleaf says he will try to bring up a stove for me next week but that you must know what it is. I thought you understood which I wanted. I thought I would take the one for $3,00 which stood near the door if you do not recollect it you may get me the one you think the best not exceeding $12. I have plenty of 6 inch funnel I believe that was the size of the funnel to the one I looked at I thought I could make my teakettle answer though it is smaller than that but since I wrote you, Abbie has concluded to want my teakettle 'cause hers leaks so I should like the whole of the furniture I sent ... except funnel if it is 6 inch, and be sure to get a piece of zinc or sheet iron to set it on. zinc is much the best because iron warps so it is more expensive I suppose but dont know the difference You sent up the a/c and I find all correct except that you charge me with 20 dollars remitted to Boston. Ann wrote me that she sent me $5,00 which she wished me to spend for her according to her directions. I did so and refunded to her the balance of the 5. If she was correct you should have charged me 15.00. If you are correct she owes me for the 5.00. I supposed she gave you a bill and you put more to it and sent the whole in one bill but the mistake can be easily rectified for if she did not give it to you she can when she has it and there will be still enough my due to get the stove and a little more though not so much as I thought for I had overlooked 15.00 and ... did not recover from my mistake till last week when I was looking over the account I had and I was quite nonplused the way my mistake

occurred was this. When you sent me the first money (16 dollars) you sent me the a/c. and I did not put down the 16 on it and on looking at the account afterward I took it as it stood there and adding the cow and bench &c thought there was considerable due but when I come to look it over the other day behold there was 16.00 that was not there, which makes a difference you know If you can find a stone churn with a stone cover I wish you would send it up if there is not quite money enough there will be some by & by. by the way what is the price of wool if it is no better than it was last year I think of hanging it all in Hamd and making up shirts for sale how could you sell some Come up soon by all means I like the plan; plan to have you get a team and come up with Lucy is not it feasible I'm most sick with a cold and so is Lizzie I have to go down to Mothers to bake all my bread for I can't bake a bit in my stove and my brick oven has gone and I'm tired when I lie down and when I rise up. I shall send my old stove if I can, but dont know as I can get any body to carry it I've been hoping ever since I got home good night your affectionate Sister Almeda

Tell Lucy to bring up my things left at Bangor the wrapper I want you should take

Almeida
June 25 1847

Allmeida
June 25 1847

Dear Brother Joseph

Elab persists in saying he will return to morrow and I wish you to send me 12 yds of cotton flannel with the bundle which Ann is about to send I wish I could by hook or crook get my molasses keg to you I have 3 prs of shirts at Kirkland with Wm Porter which he says he can probably send toward spring Had not I better get them from thence and send them to you I expect to make 4 prs, more
Tell Ann I want my rubbers dreadfully I wet my feet continually

. Almeida

. Nov. 11 1847

Nile Feb 19. 1848

Dear Brother

They tell me I can send a letter to you tomorrow if I will get it ready to night so I will write a word though Miss Sargent stais till nine o'clock by the way she tells a story about you which she says she thinks must be a mistake somewhere. It is this, that Wm Porters wife says he bought a hogshead of molasses of you for good molasses sweet and heavy. That it proves to be very poor is kelp burnt and sour and that you refused to take it back and that the men he now trades with (the name sounds like Keiser and somebody else she could not remember) told him you bought it at that price for poor molasses she dont believe you would buy what you know to be sour and sell it for good, but so the Porters have it.

Charles came home Saturday a week ago and found a nice boy of his own staid three days to look at it and went back into the woods again I suppose they'll write from there how nicely they get along, and they went to see the babe

You know I told Lucy she might have a little money that was due me at your store if you had sold the shirts well I was not so much out of the way as you thought. In the first place I supposed Ann had paid you $2.00 which she had not, but has now had to Lucy in the next place, I sent by Charles for a barrel flour which he took on to his load found he could not bring it and put it back into your store, which barrel I sent for by Elder Lee. you may naturally forget that Charles did not bring it and charged me with another barrel $6.10. when Mr Lords team got it. please rectify

Dont you suppose you will have sale for the shirts when men come out of the woods, rives driving, &c.? shall I send another pair? I have one pair more not yet ready

What do you do with your empty molasses kegs do you have any real sugary ones that you do nothing with I must get me one this spring dont know whether I could get cheapest here or of you I dont know what would be for hauling up one I presume however that it would be cheapest to get it here, unless you have some worth of sugar settled in yours, which you are in the habit of all one throwing away in which case it might pay for hauling up.

Tell Ann its would be good for her to write to

me more over I intend to write to her
"when I get time"
Mr Billington has bought Mrs D. Dows right
of making Bishops Liniment for this county Mr Dow agreed
not to sell it but did before he had made enough
to pay him what he gave Bishop for the right.
Now Bishop is real wrathy because Billington
is making it Billington is making quite a
profit, if he can sell enough of it, (and it is
really good for the rheumatism has helped me
lots) but he has to pay Mrs Dow 50,00 for
the right I suppose. that is what Dow gave.
Bishop intends to prevent his making it if he
can. I guess he wont make out
I intended to have written to Elab before this
to tell him how joyed and overjoyed James was
with his new axe Neighbors Sargent & Billington
have so for taken it upon themselves to help James
cut his wood They told me to take my money
to buy my wood and they thought it would get
cut up without my paying money they have
each cut up considerable and Mr Dolin two
came one half day with Mr B. and cut a full
load Maj Furber has sent me a big load of wood (6)
Charles did not bring up but one elbow of stove
Libe did not you get two I wrote for two as
you said on your bill "elbows" ~~I have got that~~
I use this winter some of Hector Sargents can
probably have it long as I want

Mr. J. M. Mc Kay
Bangor

Duluth Dec 18

Dear Mother

I received your letter of the 5th this morning and if it is not too late will take your advice for we think most of it is best. I will try to send you a barrel of flour by the first boat that is going down to Marion and when we have it will bear up. I shall get more to sell if I can to pay for it and if you see Mr. Smith you ask him

I have written for Mr. Sargent to Ira Hayes requesting him to aid in getting some of the old boots which Boston Schools send off to the institute for his Sabbath school in Evanston and if he gets any such request to direct them to Mr. Sargent to be left at your store and if any come you will please pay the transports and he will see that you are paid again he is making great effort to accomplish something here and I hope he will do so

The times here are 3/4 of the time now as I believe the prevalent prospect is that there will be a Baptist house built this Winter we have an interesting Sabbath school Mr. Jones has a class of young ladies and there is an expectation that we will have a class of young men Angelia Bennett is very much interested

Our meetings are very well attended. Today the house was full the Methodists did not have meeting so that two planks were brought in and about seven chairs were filled besides the seats. I do not know the exact

Mr. Joseph M. Metcalf

Dear Sir

I received the Copy of Keller's Work
& a small card to pay the same

Dear Brother Monday morn Sept 4 1848

I wish I could see you this morning as I could sell red shorts for I have 20, or 30 lbs of wool which I do not know what to do with I hate to sell for 22 or 25 cts and had rather make shirts if I can get them for I am going to be short enough of funds if I can make every thing turn as well as I can, all I raise this year is a few potatoes and 6 or 8 rows across my little patch of corn and beans the potatoes looked nicely and I expected to have some to sell but they are rotting very fast and will be a loss as I have no pig to eat them and my hay falls considerably short of what I had last year so I shall be obliged to shorten my stock Will you tell me whether you can, when flour is low get me two barrels so that I shall neither have to pay the highest prices or go without and will you the first opportunity send me a bushel of corn and my tubs also I wish if you have it you would send me 9 yds of very cheap bedticking for under bed or if you have not that, some cheap cotton which will answer for that purpose. Lizzie is better than she has been but can't gain flesh yet, she weighs 31 lbs. Little Charlie has been quite sick for a week, but was better yesterday haven't seen him this morning guess he'll get along well now though his diarrhea has not stopped yet. he has lost some flesh don't weigh but 14 lbs now. Tell Ann I wish she (or you) would get me some letter paper and a few pens. We hear occasionally from Lucy by way of Mr Fullers pass but can't hear much about how any of you get along should like to hear O I wish you would send by Mother when she comes a pr of No 1 shoes for Lucy good thick shoes for this fall and winter I guess for he wears out shoes fast perhaps ½ as much again as Lizzie would in fact 1½ or 2 pairs

Alameda
Sept 11 1865

Brevet Maj Gen
Wm. Scott Ketchum
U.S. Marshal
Northern District of California
San Francisco

Sir

I have the honor to report that I have this day received from Lieut Col Wm. Rankin 1st Cavalry Commanding Post at Benicia, the following described property, viz:

One Steamer called the Chrysopolis, with her engines, boilers, machinery, tackle, apparel, furniture, and all other appurtenances thereunto belonging, now lying at the wharf at Benicia, and which was seized by the said Lieut Col Rankin, as Provost Marshal General of the Military Department of California, on the 9th day of September 1865, by virtue of a warrant issued by the Hon. Matthew P. Deady, Judge of the District Court of the United States for the District of California, on the 8th day of September 1865, in the case of the United States vs. the Steamer Chrysopolis, her engines, boilers, machinery, tackle, apparel, furniture, and all other appurtenances, libelled for a violation of the Revenue laws of the United States.

Respectfully
Your obedient Servant

Dear Sister Mt Vernon Oct 14 1845

I sent you when we were in Boston for a pall and also express with a note to have you attend it but you go to Boston. If you can not procure it in Bangor in season and if so as you can get it here, We want yards in length say will 2 yds; or 1¾ yds wide will be I suppose, and it is to be lined with fine nice black cambric and trimmed with a large cord and tassels it is thought best to make it with a cord to go round the cloth (the edge) and a tassell at each corner and one on the middle of the sides, 6 large tassels 2½ yds of broadcloth and you must judge how much of cambric, cord and sewing silk will be needed to make it we want a good cloth and the trimmings in good taste and if there is not quite money enough to get it you are authorized to add to it a dollar or two not exceeding 15 or 16 dollars for the whole and the amount will be refunded to you several have engaged to add to their sums if there is not enough To get this all the amount I have sent is 14 dayo Mrs Kimball 1½ days 5 Angelle Dennet 1 2 days and Elizabeth Foster went in her neighborhood Mrs [illegible] Mrs Sargent think worsted tassels will be suitable and more durable and cheaper than silk I thought they were higher dear at any rate get those which will be best if the money will allow. and I want you should get a bill of the whole and send me with it, the amount collected is $13,72 when you go to Boston and forget to go to some of the Palmyra dealers and buy me some silk stay

13.65

Almeida.

Getting materials for a Pall

Oct 5

Oct 14 1745

Joseph Williams

Bangor

Dec 11 1845

[illegible]

I recd by Mother your message about the [illegible] will be [illegible] we [illegible] probly [illegible], perhaps there is more than money enough as you said the one [illegible], if so, please get also a common broadcloth for a small fall if there is more than enough for the large fall cloth and trimmings but not enough to get a small one, send what remains and we will add to it and get one at Mr Cushings I dont know anything about the cost of the trimmings if you have not money enough we will send more if there is more than enough we want to get the small one and we want it soon as we can, for there is beginning to be some impatience at waiting so long

Mother says that in your letter you saw nothing about my pocket book Indeed I said you forgot it in your hurry at Boston What a gale there was when you returned I was thinking of you and the probability of your being out then I say said Mother it is just such a night as it was when we were going to Boston in the boat, what if Uncle Josiah is going now, but I concluded that it being Saturday you would not be going and if returning would probably get into the river before the severity of the blow but I dont believe the last of Nov is a good time to go to Boston

I wish you would get me a pr of beads for frames 50 to 75 and some saleratus and a box of those nice buttons

I am about out of Molasses what is price I can get it
here for 33 now but all summer it has been cheaper
so I missed it last year by filling my keg when it
was at highest price if it is now high I had better
get it by the gallon till it falls and then fill my keg

I think it serving children to school it begins to day
and James is in a worry because he'll be late to carry the letter

I must close writing aff Sister Almira

Dear Sister

I'm glad you are coming up to stay this winter, albeit am sorry for Joseph cause he'd feel at home with you but he can wait I guess When you come I wish you'd bring me some cheap stuff to make me a bedspread 11 yds and some cotton batting 4 lbs and some assorted needles, sharps, and 1 paper of No 4 betweens I shall have to have mat Spring a set of sheeting for my new bed but perhaps you'll be short for time and had rather not get it now, shant use it till Spring One Mr Ricker, an Abolitionist has bought the up river lot, and is going to abide in my house this winter while he prepares a place for them on his place has 5 children I wonder you grudge me my happines I dont know anything about them only he is called a gossoon of a man and I dont know as any body knows his wife I'll bet a hat he's a Yankee had 2 of his children but he never has Mrs Ricker mentioned at all so I guess she is a kind of a peculiar, mysterious, nobody in a great hurry appointed State Woman

Bradford Me May 6

Bangor

Dear Sister, Stirling Mon 14 Dec 1846

I sent by Mr Gillespie a pair mittens for you to see and I want you write me how many you will ~~want~~ knit me and what you will take for them also what you give per yard for woolen shrings and how much more per skein double mittens than for those I may wish to earn something by knitting if she can and I want a letter kind as usual I wrote you about 3 wks. ago, by Mr Hall, re. the pewter buttons, &c. if you have them ready please send it by Mr Bain I want you to buy to get me a good fan comb for her to bring when she comes Mother says, I say, Mr Jameson has got your cow pasture this winter Mother says he will inquire on her in Spring, but and you if she takes in the fall sell him well for winter cow I know full much cows sell well about Boston for the winter market I was going to write you about it but I can stand he dont so I name it as Mother was I should but if you so anything about it remember you got your letter from Charles it not seem to be ladies business

yr affectionate

Elmira

Sept 14th 1861

Benjamin Hall Esqr.

Secretary

of the U.S. Treasury

Washington

D.C.

make them last I do not want him to
have his mind done when I can do it
and if I have not time for both I had
rather Elbridge would get his done away I
dont know but I can do both but I think
it best to do mine first I am having Christian
a knit for Elbridge first now Yesterday I cleaned
the sitting room and to day am leaving to
clean her chamber I think I shall clean
the bedrooms below, as I feel able and have not
clean the front entry, kitchen &c. The
school has begun, C. Eliason teaches and boards
here — I hope Grandmother will come
up before she goes back. Is there any thing
here you want sent down? I suppose you
will want more stockings, I have got one
knit and another begun, perhaps, can finish
them before Mother goes down if she should
not come up I can send by stage what you
need so far as I have it and for the rest
it must be got there I wish you would
ask Uncle Samuel what they give for butter
I have got some very nice. We have some that
was made while I was gone for 20 cts, it
was not as good as what I have made since

I don't look as well as I do by one
I tell

Your Father is still complaining
face does not gain any more than
it is very slow the cancer has
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] up, and [illegible] it, through
back as far as the branch was, that is
had burned, when we were down, that
[illegible] most sore in, and there is a deep
hole open on the cheek as large as a large cranberry
which will [illegible] with
the leaves one off it is a dreadful looking
sore I greatly wonder that it can be
as comfortable as it is. It feels very
badly when he first gets up, and after eating
He has it dressed 3 times a day, sometimes it
he feels better when dressing about, and
works most all the time, he is digging
carrots to day, he worked corn as long
as we had any to husk and he
pulled all the beans probably 20 or 30
bushels. ours, & Eldridges. He does not talk
much at times and hasn't been and he
can't stand quite plain though we
can easily understand him

We have very few apples probably not
more than a bushel in all
a few of them we dig there was nearly
a bushel of them and must
a bushel from the corner tree there were
6 or 8 apples on the good sweet tree close
to the house

In your next letter I want you to tell me
what your studies are, and how
far you have progressed, and what
time you get up in the morning, and
what you do when out of school, as
as far as you can conveniently I want
you should be regular, and methodical, in
what you have to do. and be sure to do
something industriously whatever you have
to do, do it as quick and well as you
can

I dont know whether Uncle Samuel
buys pork to sell but Mills wants
I should inquire whether they were
in the way of knowing the price
of round hog the have 5 to kill
I was intending to go over to the village
to day but the horse would not be fit
so I am disappointed about coming and this
paper but may be I shall have a chance to
send it Mother

Thanks giving morn

Dear Mother & Sister

I received your letters one Sat. & other this. I have concluded to have Lizzie stay at home this winter and continue her studies and I think she may make considerable progress without going to school as when our school closes she will have attended 12 weeks of excellent schools, and has got along nicely. Our teacher is brother to Lizzie Mason. an excellent young man. about a year older than James. He boards with us

I will like very much to get your cloak Mattie, for Lizzie. It will do first as well as to get her a new one and I think I shall try to have her bonnet fixed to wear and not get a new one

I went down to Mills Monday to get a tooth extracted I have been troubled with my teeth a long time I had one broken off and two filled with creosote, but I think I shall have to ~~get~~ get them taken out before long they are not easy yet. I suppose James will go down the first of sleighing with our butter, but I think I had rather you would send up the cloak by Stage as there is no certainty that he will go as soon as we shall want the cloak. I send a bit of my thibet dress would like to get you to pattern it and get enough for a pr of sleeves if you can without trouble the dress is good the sleeves (tight jacket) are too small I am in no hurry for it and only wish you to look if you can at leisure it is now James is going to meeting and I have no more time

Affectionately Almeda

Please send the cloak as soon as convenient as we expect to use it

Post Office

Text [illegible]

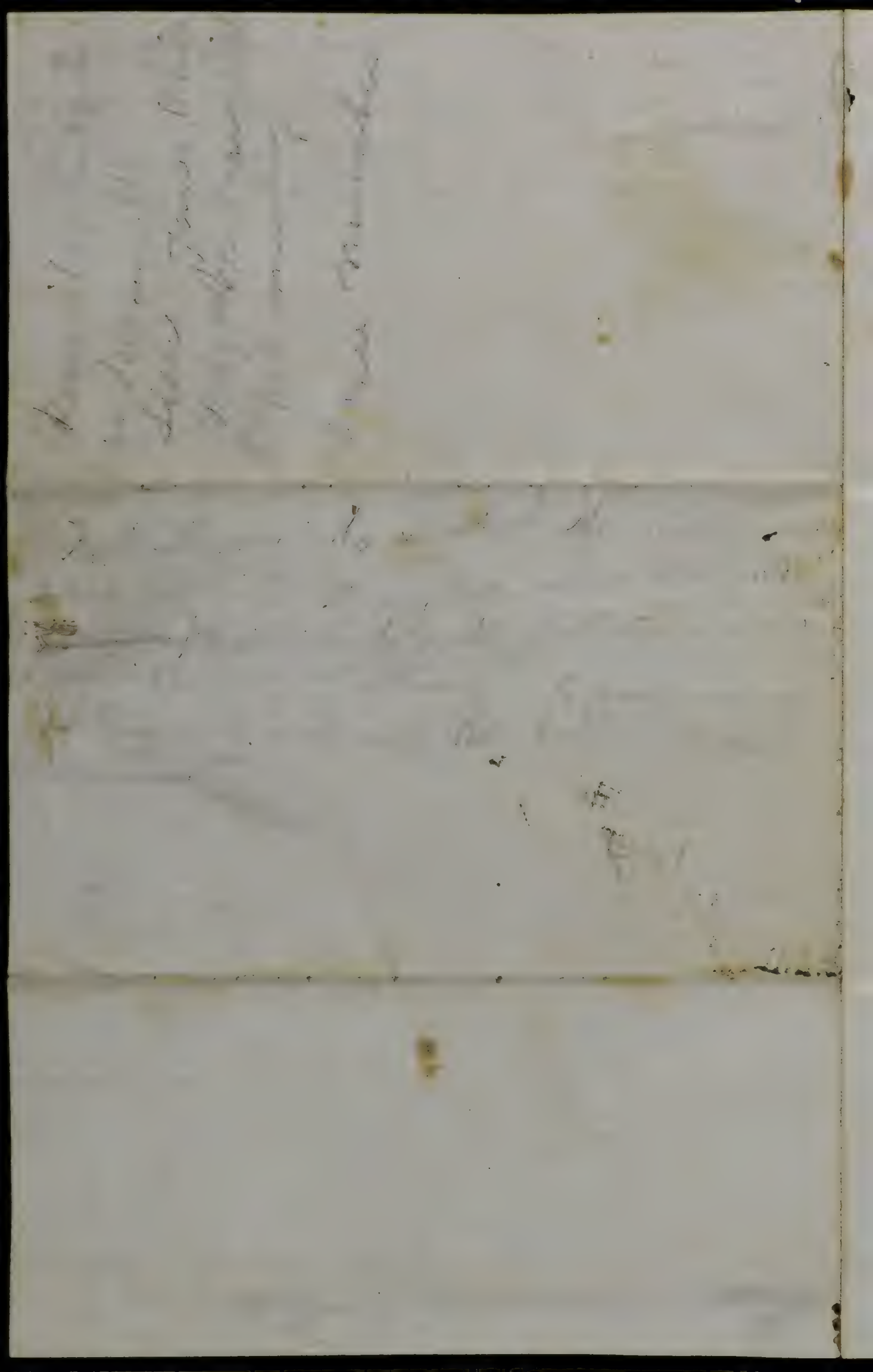
[illegible] the inability of man [illegible] both heart & [illegible] he said — the sovereignty of God [illegible] take away man's accountability [illegible] God & will do all this [illegible] would he say come unto me — [illegible] coming will you [illegible]?

O Chas I wish you could have heard Mr [illegible] Tuesday Eve 19th 58

Dear L my heart [illegible] when I [illegible] & felt a strong [illegible] necessary [illegible] to get you [illegible] & pray [illegible] of mercy — why why is it that the [illegible] [illegible] & [illegible] — Why is it [illegible] & all [illegible] why is it — I confess [illegible] matter is it — what is it is it [illegible] my dear child I know you [illegible] I cannot [illegible] you [illegible] heart [illegible] Dear L O [illegible] you [illegible] Lord will [illegible] you want to be if not why!

[illegible] you [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

which was a work of fun
& pleasure. My brother-in-law did
not like such work as they had to
get in Harvest, & the Boys
from Town; he [illegible] a healthy, and
School Enough not to for want of
Employment; I mean about Corn.
I heard all the Events don't know
to work every hand, but every
thing has its just & all over
house and farm, just as usual
as a fine. It is but much the
& the work, every thing is in
convenient. I like Mr E, very
well as a man to work for
I think. And altho' it is a very
pleasant woman I should
not [illegible]. I have a good chance
to [illegible] & things here [illegible]
the Girls, have [illegible] to myself
after dinner & write [illegible] and
[illegible]



Elyria, May 27, 1877.

Dear Major:

Just to think that there are only four Weeks more, makes me feel like jumping up through the ceiling. I go round telling everybody. People ask me, "What do you hear from May?" And, instead of answering the question, I say, in such an ecstatic manner that they laugh, "She's coming home in just four Weeks!" They ask how long you're been gone, and I say it will be nine months. Then they always and invariably say, "I suppose you don't mind her at all, and won't be particular glad to see her." I say, Certainly not, very emphatically. But, really, I can't realize it. You've been away so dreadfully long, and now you're coming

home! It is very bewildering, I can say you will be nothing in town to me before you know it. I don't believe that. I think will know it by heart before you come.

I don't feel like talking on any other subject, but I suppose you want to hear the news, if there is any, as much as ever before. So I'll tell all I can think of. The sermon this morning was a Decoration sermon. and much better than the usual discourses at the Cemetery. It was very splendid - and there was a bird flying around in church nearly all the time. Lou and Hettie stayed at home with Charlie. I suppose you've heard from Pater long ago that Charlie is "sick of mumps," as Pater wrote in my excuse. Hettie got one tooth of the comb take into her hand yesterday, when they were passing in the mowing grass. It was in the palm of her hand, near the fore-finger, which was taken

anxious at first, but she seems to feel perfectly right today, and doesn't complain of pain in her hand at all. Lou's aunt, Mrs. Slide, has been here part of the week, making Sophia a dress - black and white stripes, summer silk, quite dark. I think it seems rather funny for Sophia to have a silk dress. It was a dollar a yard, and she got twenty-two yards. Said Mrs. Slide six dollars for making it, and then linings, buttons, and such would bring it up to $30. at least. Think of it! It is down now, and Mrs. Slide has gone back to Cleveland. It was very convenient for Sophia to have her here in the house. The Temperance Meeting last Wednesday was pretty well attended. Hall not crowded though - not very many people ~~present~~ present. There is one another next Friday I don't know who the speakers are to be. Last time they were Prof. Churchill, of

Oberlin, Judge Tibbals of Akron, (who is now holding court in Elyria) Wm. Luther W. McLean, and Geo. P. Metcalf. We've got a new S. S. Library. Isn't it? it will be splendid. Wm. Ely has spent much time on it. Old Artemas Beebe furnished the money. We haven't seen or used the Library yet.

Our last Comp. for the year, we have three weeks' preparation on. We choose our own subject. I think that I should. It takes me more than half my time trying to decide on a subject. I'd much rather they'd give me a subject that I must take. Pater tells me to take "The Misery of Writing Compositions." A good reading will take something on English History - Elizabeth, Mary Queen of Scots, Oliver Cromwell, or something of the kind. I should like

Mrs. Darling has got Nell to spend a day or so. She may be left. Church Wed morning. And expects to stay to Sunday dinner. Sat nite 20 Visits after church. Says had a dandy time. Ty me dear fully die about Ed. Said I have Mrs. Ely as an-

to write about May as any thing else, but others will probably take her, and I dont want mine just like fifty others. We have to report our chosen subject tomorrow, and I have'nt the least idea (as Miss Boynton says) what I shall have.

I wore my grey suit, complete, today. Im glad to say it's all paid for. I paid Miss Baylis her $4. Friday. Was delighted to get it off my mind.

One day last week Lu and I went to Mrs. Howard's to get our verbenas. She said we should have come before. all the nice things were gone. She couldn't pick out but seven decent ones, not cold, And we wanted a dozen. We took, oxalis, a lemon-verbena, a heliotrope, and a few fus. all which cost $.60. Pater told us he could get some cheaper

down town, so Friday he brought home
a dozen more geranium, and six fuchsias.
four small fuchsias, and two large
ones, one double. then there's that one
that you got before, too. All the geraniums
are set out together in one long narrow
bed, and with a large fuchsia in the
middle. It looks real nice. The other
fuchsias, geraniums, &c. have not been
set out. Hyacinths are all gone.
Lilies of the valley are in blossom.
They make some sweet smelling blossoms
on ours. They are lovely. Mrs. Hillyard
has some artificial boxes in her house.
They're very pretty. The Strawberry plants
has lots of buds on it for so small a one,
but they're not quite out yet. don't
expect much yet. I send you one.
hope it won't lose all the odor before
you get it. I guess it won't. Solomon's
Seal is out now. both the blue and the
other. There is not so much as a single

bud on the Trailing Arbutus - Isn't that horrid?

Next Saturday is the time for our annual society picnic. The Anniversary, Junglish, is Sunday - so is near enough. I've got to furnish Dutch cheese. We haven't yet decided where to go. not far away, I guess - We want it to be warm enough to wade - and we rather afraid it won't be. That would spoil half the fun.

I was down to Annie Wood's yesterday afternoon, and stayed to supper for the first time since Annie Dudley came, and that was in January - Miss Dudley is a dear - very, I think - We've got a nice pianist at school, and the old organ is in the B. Room. It's splendid. The girls play solos and duettes Mondays, Orchestra & Philomelas - Tomorrow afternoon. Professor Hyland and his little daughter Eliza are going

O my body to play a duet, by special request. Her & Ken plays for us a little at once. Hey's are Ah! never slayer. Litchfield and George Rich are thinking of singing "When yegung ama, Jamie" in school. If I was Ken, I think I should sigh for a nicer Jamie. George Rich is too silly! Though I like his singing muchly. I'm wearing your chocolate wrapper this afternoon. John says it's three or four yards too long, but it feels comfortable, anyway this hot weather. We've got one brood of six chickens, and one of ten. And seven of the cunningest little ducks that ever you saw. Talker lonely now, fat escute! I guess I'll have to take the leaves off of the strawberry shrub, though it wont look so pretty.

Please write in our us" as soon as possible.

Annie.

Dear Ma, Pattie, Calvin Adams's, for instance) but most of them are so dinary-colored Hours. Mostly full Hours. Jones.

Elyria, Dec. 12, 1894.

Dear Mamie my dear:

I wonder how the day has come with you. Have you a headache, or a pain in your chest? Did Fannie get her feet and ankles dry and warm when he came home from Kendrick's? Had he good and happy all the afternoon? Is he peacefully sleeping now, with warm toes? Would not object to sitting in the big room with you now. I should not feel so much so as I do, if I were of any use here. But if does not seem time that I do any good. Hal and Ethel are still here, and there are lots of people around, and a lot of excitement. Ina Burton came to see about and do things with me, but she was [illegible] with a cold. I shall not [illegible]

for pudding and sauce, but perhaps the maid has had time to do it herself. I did it because I remember that Mother used to almost always do it for her. It is a job that takes considerable time, and yet it is easy - we can do it sitting down. Poor Bertha misses Mother so much - in a different way from us. but she misses her.

Nellie makes me sit opposite the Father at meals. I think that is one thing that she wants me here for. She does not want to herself, and Sholto does not want Hal or Ethel to.

After dinner I went down cellar to wash our aprons. They were nothing to do. but Bertha told Nellie I had gone down there with that surprise, and she followed me, and would not let me do it. and she called Hal and Harry and Ben, and Keyes and Nelson came too. and we had a great time.

This afternoon I read to the small children some, but mostly I just sat in the bedroom, where Peter was writing, and darned stockings— our own— Perhaps there will be more for me to do tomorrow. The great Nothing has come home, and Tertia will be busy with the ironing, and will need more help. And the new stockings will be ready to be darned.

I wish I knew whether today has or not. I wish Donald & you knew, Jan dear.

I do not feel at all sure that Marion will reach home. She must certainly she will not come tomorrow.

Just before supper a telegram for Peter came from her:
"I intend to come home today. Is that right?"

I suppose nothing has been written her since her letter came, and she may not have that Peter had accepted her decision— and it was too big a thing to do without knowing that

that that was the plan that seemed best to people here. Later I added: "Yes, come if you think best - We want you."

It is a blessing that this is a house full of children. The children help Papa to get back to old ways. It seems to me if there were only grown people, it might be that we should all sit still and be sad - We can't do that, with the children. It would not be right -

If Marion does not come within a day or two or three, what shall we do. The Upham room is not ready to be lived in - perhaps will not be this week. So how could we all be here over Sunday?

Tell me what to do, please. Do not want to be silent, if I am really needed.

Love -

Your Annie.

Elyria, Dec. 13, 1894

Dear Azariah and Frances boy:

I did my much long for a letter from you this afternoon, and had some little hope of it - but in vain. I want to know whether you are just as well off as if I were there. Are you both well and happy?

I almost thought last night that perhaps I'd better go home - or send sufficient use him. But tonight I am a little worried for fear I may not be able to go home for a few days. Ethel is violated from the family on account of a white spot in her throat, and I am the one who has been most exposed, (if there is anything in exposed be,) since I stood and looked into her throat. And have gone to her room several times, since she went to retirement.

She noticed yesterday afternoon or last evening that her throat was swollen on both sides just under her ears outside. It did not pain, and was not sore, she says, feel bad inside.

This morning people noticed it, and told her she was having the mumps, but she said she might as well, and it failed. She says it does not hurt her to swallow, but hurts a little to chew. After dinner I persuaded her to let me look in her throat, and found that there was a little round white spot on one side. on the tonsil I should say perhaps. So Bruce went down and asked the Doctor to come, and he said he couldn't tell for whether it was diphtheritic, but she would better stay away from the family till morning, and then he would see it again. And he left a strong gargle. I carried up her supper, and have been up since to let her know it was time for the gargle again.

Pater and Ethel went to the Steel Works this afternoon, so Pater did not know the Doctor was here, and he did not notice Ethel's absence at supper. And we thought we would not mention it.

I hope you will write to me, my dear.

I told you of Marion's Telegram. A letter came today, sent before the Telegram, saying she had begun to get headaches, but would feel more settled if she had heard from home. She supposed that no one had written because they thought she was coming right along. Which was the case, exactly. I think it is likely that she will reach here by Saturday - don't you?

A letter to Pater from Charlie. Part of it was: "If I could only write a letter I could say lots to you, but don't know how. I can only say that the Germans take just as much notice of me as they do

take care boys.

Chas.

How glad it would have made Mother
to read that from Charlie. But I
guess she knows it.

Goodnight, my dear ones.

Frank boy dear, take good care of
your Father now. God Father will
take good care of your little boy.

Mother Annie.

Morning - telegram [illegible]

Morning this morning boys
I know how Mother will feel
[illegible]

Elgin, Dec. 14, 1894.

Dear Azariah and Francesbay:

Another long day has passed without my hearing from the people of whom I so much want to know. The days will long - I don't mean that. There is plenty of work to do, and plenty of conversation. But I want to know how you are. Dick should have had time enough to write a line to me from Jan that you would write home every day.

Ethel is released from prison - The white flag was gone this morning, and the shutters were down and bigger and more beautiful. The doctor said the inside of the throat was all right, and as for the outside, he thought it must be the measles, though in this respect it is a peculiar case.

He said She wouldn't stay in her room, unless Pater didn't want the babies to have measles - but anyway it wouldn't make much difference, since Saturday and the day before were the days when there was most danger of contagion, I don't know why. As you and Fraue and I have all had measles, that need not bother me. But they want me to stay if I can. Ethel says even if we didn't do anything, we ought to stay to fill up the places at the table. And Aunt Hallie and Aunt Albina tell me to stay - Aunt Albina said I ought especially to be here with Evelyn if I can. But it seems a very long while away from my dear family in Berlin. I do not see how you can come, because then we would be less than usual - neither of the beds can yet be used - Hans, though, had to start away on the 11.25 this noon - He has been sleeping in the little room over Pater's room - where he

Well Ruth, I've been dead tonight
Ike and Harry are sleeping there.
The northern. Charlie's room smells
so sweetly.

I'm feel anxious about Pater-
not that he gives way at all. Indeed
he looks so bare. pale, and old,
and - desolate. He was afraid
sorry that he left Scales. Dr. Smith
not to worry, I know. He goes
to the Bank) every morning, home, and
after he reaches home sits and reads
or smiles most of the time.

Jane afraid Bruce boy's Easter-
Garden clothes are getting all worn
out and soiled, if he wears them
all the time. His home once or
together in the top of the middle
drawer of your bureau - front corner
towards the other bureau.

I must go to bed. Love the best-
Lovingly, Mamie.

(COPY)

123 Forest St., Oberlin, O.
17 June, 1911.

My dear Percy:

I received your letter with the enclosures just as I was leaving Cleveland for a week's stay here. Ellen and I have a great many friends in this beautiful college town, and a large number of relatives, both Bosworths and Metcalfs, who are distant in point of relationship, but whom we are so fond of that we like to make as much as possible of the connection. There are the remnants of one family of Metcalfs here which consisted of eighteen children. Father and mother died when some of them were very young, and the eldest daughter, a professor at Wellesley College, gave up her position to come home and care for the family. Every one of them has graduated, or is about to do so, at Oberlin, and it is a remarkable family. One graduates next week, and the last remaining one is a Junior here, while members of the second generation are now enrolled. One of the elder sons is Gen. Milder Metcalf, who distinguished himself in the Spanish War, and of whom Gen. Funston speaks in an article in the June Scribner. One of them is a college president in the South, and all are doing useful work in the world. There were four girls; one died, one is married, and the eldest one does a good deal of college work here which is very highly appreciated. Then there is another Metcalf family, also a connection, which is, in its way, as remarkable. There is much money in this branch, and they do a great deal of good with it. In Oberlin one meets a great many people who are notable for something, often for several things. There

is one of the largest muscial Conservatories here in the country, and its standard is very high. I am delighted to be in such a cultivated society. But it is very unfashionable, and in some respects what I regard as narrow. No smoking is permitted, and it is almost a crime to play bridge. And the crême de la crême of society regard with great severity a great many practices which seem to me perfectly harmless and even delightful. However, I am not persecuted for my opinions, and I do not obtrude them. Missionaries and their offspring are as thick as blackberries. It is an orthodox Congregational college of the strictest type, and I am an Episcopalian, so somewhat of a heretic in the general opinion.

.....

Anna Metcalf.
Sister of Mrs. Ellen Metcalf Bosworth

(This lady must be about seventy (70) years old.

Thirty-six, and three
Seventeen beautiful years since then,
Full of peace, free from strife,
Seventeen beautiful years of life;

Blessing others every day.
Richest blessings day by day
Surely come to thee and stay.

Inherit the earth ye meek,
We all the wish must speak.

Richer blessings still
Inconceivable ye will.

There was a young lady just twenty-seven,
She had gone like a ray to the very To heaven,
    Though her eyes they were weary,
    Yet sweet was her mien
This charming young woman of twenty-seven -

They called this young lady Miss Kitty,
And some people said she was witty -
    The reason, I wit,
    Is not met to be sought,
In the case of this young Miss Kitty.

It lay in her unselfish nature
More lovely than beauty of feature,
    Kind deeds and kind words
    Like sweet songs of birds
Spoke always her unselfish nature -

Now, maidens all, attend my story,
If you would strive to wear such glory,
    Be always quiet,
    Treat each one right,
And you'll be loved even when you're homely -

"Once she was a little baby,
Now she is a middle-aged lady.
These my text:
But what is the next?
To rhyme with my medical count?
Hemlock so rare,
Ether skin deep,
I don't need to say anything about it:
For I've all in reason,
In moderation,
Where you can rather go by advice,
Tho' all my pills will cure Arthur.
Gentle, Emily, noble, good,
How we wish we all could!

In eighteen hundred and eighty.
Of course my subject you'll divine,
In the month of July the 26th day
Came Annie's birthday - all so gay.
She was 27 long years old,
Perhaps you knew it ~~before~~
without being told.

The family gathered a
little before
Had just been seated
- ed to four winds or
more
Wilder & Kansas and
& Missouri
And with them their
2 sons & Mary & Carry.

not were happy to
state
but its not too late
that Marion stayed
at home to celebrate
my anniversary birth
day cake.

To Anna

In July eighteen sixty two
To sixty three West Avenue,
There came an angel in disguise
With form so fair so eyes so wise
A precious darling baby girl.

This babe to womanhood did grow
A sweet character to show;
A comfort; and a help to all
Who on her joyous way should fall
This lovable gentle woman.

Its years passed on deep Rooted she
In a sheltered spot; a quiet nook,
When friends and neighbors come and go
Glad to be counted not a foe
To this happy woman Anna.

This is the moral of my tale
Try to be like her without fail
And of you it shall be spoken
As it is of her written
Her price it is above rubies.

Sycia. O.
May 19. 1881.

My own dear Annie:

I guess that a birthday letter should be something lovely, suggestive of pleasant and happy things — and I believe, too, that just such a letter came to me yesterday from my own dear Annie to make more pleasant my exceedingly pleasant day. A whole table-full of birthday smiles up at me, testifying to the undeserved love, that is showered upon the small Edith. Eight letters call down blessings upon my new year. The gift I will show you, the letters I will read to you, but be sure no gift or letter is more dear than your gift-letter, which is in one way a glad surprise, because it tells me that you are for one more

great deal for your Caring.

What an odd Day the Birthday was. I mean Nature's part of it—a day half smiling through tears and breaking into a real smile just before evening - a day My Brother almost told one was "not a shining day but a growing day". Which is better, is it not, My Cousin Annie? I count it as my happiest birthday, tho' the thought of the birthday when My Clara waked me by showering me with flowers, dropping them upon me lilies, roses, pansies, one by one and laughing her clear sunny laugh as she showered me do, was with me all the day. I believe that Somewhere she lives and thinks of me and my birthday, Marion, remembering. I think, that it was always Clara's flower-offering. Laid me a bunch of lilies & the valley, and their breath is my forth

one, though I cannot touch the hand that used to give. I am glad the kindlies Blake brightness for you, too. They have always been precious to me, and this year they surprise me more than ever before.

Yes, the great window is 119, now much we can out of it, how much it means to several hearts! We will not forget it, you and I. No, Annie, I'm not sorry for you, you have been a little girl and it, and me, now I want you to be a woman; for I am sure of your future. I believe in it, and I know the noble woman you will grow to be. The world is waiting for such, so do not be afraid to come into the womanhood that awaits.

Your walk was beautiful and reminds me of many of mine. My visit in Baltimore was brief, filled with [illegible] drives, long walks and long talks. Yours the river banks enchantingly lovely, and a

come home with another glad memory.

Enjoy the dandelions and be happy every day!

With sincere love,

Edith.

"The very cemetery, which always seems to me one ghastly joke, was once thoroughly studied by myself. I think you skipped me alone.

"My Brother I wish you well.

" Sister " " " "

" Neighbors " " " "

Poor Sinner I wish you well."

Nothing personal about that. Beautiful spirit evinced. ~~Did~~ it not?

I missed your Baby one, and agree with you that it is the worst tomb stone I ever heard of.

E.

T. L. NELSON, President. RESPONSIBILITY, 500,000. J. C. HILL, Cashier.

SAVINGS DEPOSIT BANK

PLEASE REPORT COLLECTIONS BY NUMBERS. COLLECTION AND GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS.

Elyria, O. Oct. 18th, 1886

Dear Anna,

I hope you have ceased worrying, that Miss Turner is a comfort and a blessing to you, and that you and the small Root are both comfortable and happy as you deserve to be.

The Mother Harriet however seems to have caught the trouble.

She worries for fear that you continue to worry: And when she received no word from you, as she thought Mr Root promised, She came near, in spite of every thing, taking the train last Evening to go over to see and remonstrate.

She thinks if Azariah does not write it would not hurt you now to write just a few words yourself to calm ~~your~~ her perturbed spirits.

We are all quite well.

Except that whenever She is away and leaves Mr Keyes, Mary takes him

in the carriage, and rattles his bones over the stones' till he is sore and fretful for about twenty four hours.

Please write to her.

Most respectfully

J. D. Father

51 St. Clair St.
Chicago, Mar. 16.
1910

My dear Anania[illegible]:—

Did you think I wasn't glad to see you and that dear little Francis Metcalf baby because I haven't before this acknowledged your arrival? Do, you are surely too sensible to think such a thing, and you know how to be charitable to a busy person in the library profession, having had a living example before you of the eternal rush of it, so, now these many years. We can't even say thankyou in a calm respectable way like other people. The work that ought to be done haunts us so much that the privilege we would

Mr. Ford should be included in my benediction.

Does he know that Miss Hutchins has resigned her place here, and that we are in chaos for the present, awaiting a new head cataloguer and a large force of assistants?

The books here are an ever present joy; but, oh, the lack of system is lamentable! Life in Chicago grows more and more interesting, — very full of everything to learn and enjoy; but I must try to tell you about it in a letter that started out to be simply a thank-you.

Give my affectionate greetings to all your family in Elyria - especially to those precious little boys, who were once my Little Helpers. I have a mid Winter Class here; but work with the children is always loveliest.

Yours, lovingly, Edith, — and so gratefully for the picture.

wish to enjoy must be put aside day after day. It is indeed a privilege for me to tell you how much I like your Baby Boy. He has a sweet, strong face, full of resolution — I can see that all very plainly, tho' the picture is so wee. And the name you have chosen is undoubtedly the name for him. It is very melodious and has a fitness, which pleases me much. The initials are good, too; I always think of that. Now don't worry about that dear child but just enjoy watching him grow. I am glad for a child that has so dear a Mother. My blessing upon you both, upon you all, — for surely

[illegible] remembering this. I am in
[illegible] and [illegible] to
and all the rest of you.

[illegible]

Mrs. Robert H. Gardiner Jr.
Gardiner, Me.

Dear Mrs. Gardiner:

This should take me
about 2 days to write, in
order to make it as
small as possible. I
can't get it all in.
Should package like this
be sent by mail? The
little things that go
[illegible] and
Candy! and Chocolate and the
Candy! It's the first time in 2
years this year. [illegible] from home
I don't mean [illegible]
cup to Candy but in
[illegible] or [illegible] your candy that

miss so couldn't write me a letter. She is so good to write to me. Also a letter from Bessie Andrews Merwin and a darling birthday letter from Ella. and message from Wayne. They are lonely.

Your letter written to your mother the day after Neer Dear was lonely and good. and I'm sorry to answer. But I know only a little time that I steal Sue. Ed and Sum. to write and I write home — and scribble a mad word & letter about the Leland Locks, which I spose you all read the day I scribbled. It does seem so queer to them all here about home those two girls pass for white there. Do they still? There are very contrary and decided opinions here about the morality of their doings, and the morality of those who know the truth not saying & Some say let the poor things be happy while they can, and some say leaving your own brother to lead so with them? thinking them white

[illegible] with the [illegible] letter would [illegible] the about time seems [illegible] We had one good time this week - Will Pickton - under the Weed. Did you ever hear him? He is a great grand good [illegible] nice man. But it is delightful to [illegible] sure white. He said "mine going to act white tonight - don't you mention Army." Will [illegible] is looked - truly -

Last night we heard the peerless elocutionist Miss Hahn of Boston in Army Hall. She is very fine - Kind - I suppose you wouldn't dream she was colored. And she did some of her pieces just finely. The ballad kind and the baby one - Daisy's Faith - oh that was just simply splendid - nobody on Earth could do it better. But the great pieces - the tragedy - and pathos in the style that Pickton colored people know this - but she is really a real interesting person. And my little Grace Mikell Seventh Grade friend

[illegible] just [illegible] accompanied by his sister Nathalie. She says she does [illegible] and studies. She likes [illegible] to go to the [illegible] and to the school. The [illegible] is just round and the [illegible] is small. [illegible] lived a [illegible] [illegible] in Corsica and Indiana. She will [illegible] a [illegible] Ar, for there is [illegible] ain't it and I will give us a first class [illegible] and [illegible] in the [illegible] for [illegible]. It is [illegible]. She [illegible] me [illegible] when we [illegible] or [illegible] not grades and [illegible] [illegible] Father. I will [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] as they know [illegible] to take and keep their [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. As a race they don't know [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

From the S. P. we
went to Pen. Fox
to take two through
before noon. Sour
the prisoners get dinner. Quite a dif-
ference between
prisoners. Had a plate
of cabbage boiled
and a great hunk
of bread for dinner.
Back to Irving for
dinner. Uncle Chas
finds cablegram
waiting. Getting tickets
for at Third Bros. this
morn. Right-three
Get them all right
just before train time.
Left Calexico at
4:10 o'clock arrive

Cincinnati 8½ o'clock
Stand over night at
Palace Hotel.
Called at 6½ o'clock Wed.
morn. 16th. Take break-
fast, and get to depot
for 8.15 train to Louis-
ville. Keep on the north
side of the Ohio till
Louisville passing
through North Vernon
Indianapolis Crossing
the river on a fine
bridge. Arrive in
Louisville (one hundred
and twenty seven) miles
from Cin. by this route)
ten min. to one.
Our train for Memphis
leaves at 6.30 - take supper
Cross & ride about
city till train starts -
5

See Page 5 for Residences, Business Block & the Louisville Exposition building.
City has between 130 & 140 Inhabitants.
Many Wholesale liquor and Tobacco houses
Tobacco handled in hogsheads or Great four wheeled drays four horse drays, horses are mostly all mules.
See great loads of tobacco, drays piled high. two horse drays generally driven tandem.
four horse drays 11
Saddle on wheel horse. Take deepest of Irregular Memphis bright Hard light yellow

Thursday 17th

Work all of the negroes & the train cross Tennessee & Cumberland Creek Freely. Nothing else of Interest as Thick as Huckleberries at Home. We see Cotton & Corn. Some cotton unpicked. Corn husked standing. Saw mills all along. Great piles of Staves and Lumber. Cash paid for cotton seed. piles of cotton bales at every station. Negroes, Mules & Saddle horses.

Many houses on posts high & above ground. Chimneys built outside. Had way through the middle for the wood. Some houses two.

Get into Memphis about
1.30 P.M. Stop at Peabody
House find Mr Alex
Johnson there.
Good Times, Good Eats
" Beds,
Cotton Seed $22 per ton
" " Meal $27 per ton
from store. 1750 per ton.
Uncle's big Satchel lost, me
cheered at Coin. for blame
this Know knowing when
we can get it. Takes a
day here to do what they
do in the North in
ten min.
Friday 18th Uncle busy
good part of forenoon. trying
to find the Satchel
Ride in St. Cars & walk
About Some. Weather fine,
just like Spring. Greatest
sight on the Mississippi or levee

Stretches along the river about ½ mile all paved & sloping to the water.
Boats run right up to the shore. Barges loading & unloading across the Gang plank. Drays coming & going with freight. Bales & sacks of cotton & cotton sacks. Barrels of flour Apples, sugar, salt, molasses, fish. Lumber, boxes, pkgs, etc etc.
Mules & Darkys everywhere. Saw Panorama of Battle of Gettysburg 300 ft long 40 ft high. This was in a circular tent with a raised platform in the middle.
Don't know how many visitors. Mem. has one page dated 25 or 30 thousand, but said he didn't know.

After dinner found that the big Inland was gone Soon found the Steamer James Lee Expected to sail for Helena at 5 P.M. Did not watch the darkys load her up. Freight keeps coming till almost 6 they keep taking it on even after they have taken in the gang. James Lee pretty good boat, State rooms named after the States we get- Kansas & Minnesota. Get a good supper & go out- and see the crew make landings. Runs a regular ferry from one side of river to the other. Gang plank Raised by derricks on each side the bow, runs right into the door

40 ft. 50 ft. long

(worked by steam)
lowers goods by cable to the bluff & any freight up and down the "Hill".
83 to go Mi. from M. to H.
Man on board says he has known this boat to make 49 landing between the two points, Eight to H. & little before 8 pm. Saturday 19th June Lee has made the trip up the river in 5hr 33 min.
Helena has 4000 or 5000 inhabitants. Son of Mr Johnson & he takes me all around town & introduces me to his friends.
I make buy fishing tackle & [illegible] Cartridges.
We take dinner at the Hotel & get down to Johnsons depot in time for 2.30 train to Clarkston 50 mi. Road Trip & fine

Jackson at depot — in
H. Acer Lan — heard of
Jim J. before. Get to C.
about 6. Stop at boarding
house kept by Mrs Neal
Will J. & A.H.J. come
out too. A.H.J. stays at
Capt. Evans' his partner in land
business & lives in C.
Every body calls A.H.J. Colonel
Capt Evans has lakes on
Hawthorne, acres land.
He came from Ohio 31
yrs. ago. Hawthorne 830. is his postoff.
C is the County Seat of
Alachua Co. In the
White river has a mill
known as Enfield. 2 Darkey
Churches 2 or 3 White Ch.
The Alachua Co. Sun is
published here. Have to stay
here over Sun. No service
in the morning. Go to S.S. in

the afternoon with Will.
Gl into his Cap, Franc Clay
Gs to one of the Darkey Chs.
in evening.
Hear of good hunting up
Cache river a branch of the White
7 or 8 mi. beyon in the bottom
Mon. 21st Gl-a man & boat-
age up White & Cache to mouth
of 7 mi. Forklift up the
bayou about 5 mi. camp
Find one flock of Ducks.
Met a man & five boys who
said they had seen Bear.
Landlady put us up some grub
Which we ate on the bank of
a little lake of the bayou
& went back to the boat-
& dropped down to Clarendon
Mon. 22nd Bottoms
Covered with virgin oak
& timber. Elk, bear,
turkey & game

high water mark from the 2 lens of it above our house
~~[illegible]~~ The man who owned the bottom land was ~~[illegible]~~ except timber 2½ ac. an acre, only the land, but the timber belonged to us for taxes. Two 22nd Get-Up. Ennis bidding Mr to go out with the Hoods & kills around (1) for Quails & rabbits Get - 10 or 11 quails and 3 rabbits. They gave the 2 11 & 3 & 4 quails to me to carry & I lost - I think & 1 or 2 quails. He [illegible] to take [illegible] & went-to whom to get [illegible] & found a [illegible] with wife & nine children. Found out that I had lost - & of the Game went back & found the

rabbit. Left the 3 rab.
with the lock down.
Carter lived on next door
where we got some sweet
potatoes ~~Yams~~. home about
3 o'clock Gave the guards
to the road pack up & left
Texas & St Louis Depot for
the 4.30 train to Kansas
City. This is a narrow gauge
road running 800 mi out
from Cairo. It is 2½ mi. from
Roe Post-Office or Siding No 1
as the station is called to the
Johnson ranch. Find a
man & team at station to
take us to the ranch. Get there about 6
Mr Thomas who has sold his
interest on this ranch left
to live here in the house
he built. The spring is like
he Carries water from
arrived for the night.

Mar
Today I learning his wife was in Hecla and went right back after her, & he has been here a week. John DeWitt keeps the Cor. house in the Grove & is the 5th ranch man & Wife, keep batchelors hall in the house. Thomas' house is the best house & house in the Co. It is a log house, hall way through the middle, one room on each side, Chimney made of Sticks at each End. John DeWitt has been here since Thanksgiving looks much better than when he left Elyria.
These ranch men depend entirely on stock, raise nothing, live on Corn bread & bacon, if their money gives out before the ranch begins to pay it all up with them. One man near here has 400 or 500 hogs and no corn he expects

them to live on mast. This year there is no mast & he says they will all die before spring. They are scattered all over the prairie for 5 or 6 miles. Since starting this march nearly 150 head of cattle besides horses & mules. They have 6 or 8 spring calves that are not ½ as large as our Jersey Calf at-home. They buy Corn & bran & cotton seed & cotton seed meal. They can get prairie hay for the cutting or 2.00 a ton delivered. They have 2 wells one 125 ft. deep which with the pump and windmill cost 300. Water enough to water 500 head, is not deep in the well. Wed. Dec 23rd After breakfast of Corn bread, ham Eggs & Coffee without milk (Nobody here owns any milk here) we go-

having brought Capt Evans mail from Ft Clark - Left Ft Clark - Ills [illegible] from Riv [illegible] this is a mistake I saw in the afternoon that we saw them Monday.) Got a rabbit & 2 meadow larks & went home to dinner. Maynard had a headache & didnt go out in the afternoon. Uncle and I took 2 of the ranch dog & go out after rabbits Get one & go home

Good many bear & deer killed in this region but we dont find any.

A man rode up to the wind mill this morning to water his horse & said he had Chained 2 dear to [illegible] this morning.

Thursday Dec 24

Maynard all night this morning with all hands we go out into the woods towards the bayou after quail, Maynard & Mr Young to the lake in the bay to hunt ducks Joe about 60 but get none. Return home & Mr Young takes them & Mrs Hayes & Mrs Young take tea with Mr & Mrs J. G. Smith spend very pleasant time. Uncle told John that when he got back to Columbus he would send him some medicine that would bring him out all right. And are Neither of us to be used from 2 to 4 pens a day.

Thro St. Louis Grinnell
10 or 12 hrs since
Coming out here
She is a good work
to guard Lewis & Clark
Left St. Louis
Slight-frost. Took a late
breakfast at the Island
Wood is plenty here. It is a
mile to half to the mile
River, right-through
Bluffs on left
& climps of trees scattered
all over the prairie.
picked up 3 more drivers to
the station by Mills Stevens
one of the French Drivers
Reached Jefferson City 12.
Cross on the St. Louis & Texas
Starting to Glenwood
have to lay here over night
Called to Dockery on the
Kansas Pacific Railroad

In Helena on the morning
Big fire here last night - the
result of the mob which
they have on Christmas rather
than the fourth of July which
they don't seem to think
much of down here.
Remains of fire Scattered. rock-
ets & roman candles. Clean
town. Cap. Drawn $2,500.
Adams Co has local option
prohibition. Every body used
to use whiskey here, especially
at Christmas time, now
they can't get it except by
the jug from Helena.
Can't get it C.O.D.
This has reduced the consumption
very much.
Sat. Dec 26th Another
frosty, ice on shallow water
Take carley train for it.

Men on the boat said
he had failed to ~~deliver~~ the
mail. Arrive in St. about
10 o'clock. Dine at the Hotel
Cross the river on the
steam ferry boat - travel
at 1 1/2 - Pilot - invited me
into the pilot-house. Got
a fine view of the river, which
he said was 1/10 mi wide
here at this stage of the river.
Took a little narrow guage road
from the ferry landing to
~~Lula~~ Lula a station on the
Louisville St. O. & Texas R R
~~station~~ 56 4/10 mi from M.
& 398 6/10 mi from N. O.
Had to wait from half
past 2 till 6 1/2. Got to
Vicksburg at 1, 30 a. m.
Sunday 29th Went to the
Washington House.

to Cook Station where we
about 10 Oclock. Got
some breakfast & went
to the Baptist Ch.
then started on
till about 2.30. Back
to the hotel, to the dinner
laid down for a nap.
[illegible]
to Mrs. Dec 25th 1883
take a hack & drive around
the city for about 4 hours.
went to the National Mil-
itary Cemetary 16,000 Feder-
al dead buried here.
Cemetery is on a hill over
looking the river. Very
nicely kept. Graves arranged
on terraces one above the

The names of the greater part of those buried here are unknown.
Each grave has a numbered headstone & a register is kept telling all that is known about each one.
Cemetery is kept by a union soldier who has an office on the grounds where all visitors are required to register their names.
There is a mound, said to be an indian mound, on the top of the hill. On top of this mound is a small Marble Monument — taken from the spot where Gen Lee and Pemberton met for consultation July 4th 1863
Stopped at a little store where some relics of the battle field were kept.

Rusty Unrolls Gun
barrels, buckets & bolts.
Of all sizes & shapes
Saw the place where
Visiting Dick Allen
Vicksburg is a naturally
fortified town situated on
ground rising from the river
& surrounded by hills
Many of these hills were
fortified during the
Siege. County road cut
through these hills, some
cuts 15 or 20 ft. deep.
In these cuts are the re-
mains of many caves
cut into the sand Cliff
Here people lived during
the Siege
Many building still
bear scars received
during the siege

Over dinner pounded out the Shaw brick house in which he lived during the Siege, one end of which was demolished by shells one shell going clear through the bed in which he usually slept. Everybody should have their lives insured before ~~re~~ trying to walk about ~~the streets of~~ V. Sheels - very ~~nervous~~ nervous & out - well sighted. Got back from the ride about - 2 o'clock After dinner we went down to the river to see the cotton compress. The steam presses were not working, but we saw a bale pressed by hand. There were 1300 bales on the ground.

Leaving Tulsa during the
day Government
making a survey for the
location for a canal
150 ft wide 17 ft deep
to bring the Arkansas
to V. The river having
made a cut off leaving
V 2 mi. away.
Ate at the hotel
We got on board of a
sleeping car on the
I. M. & O. & T. P. R. [Which
was] a narrow gauge
& 130 mi. got
bed. Make up in the
morning 20 & find
that we have been
lay over night & one day
blocked delayed by
the reds of a freight
train just ahead &
all rail 160 mi from V. O.

[illegible] Roxie a place
to [illegible] Court
in Salina. This is an
[illegible] 8
coaches. Rations are
[illegible] Get [illegible]
[illegible] Lunch for
breakfast; Bacon corn
bread & eggs for dinner
Start early about 5:30
& after breakfast
arrive at A.C. about
7.30 or 8.00 OT about 12 hrs.
behind time
The following is a
copy of an Ad. printed
on one of the stages in

Roxie
Stop a little
why will you go all the
way to Salina
when U can git more

Kachof & Kutner here
Whats the use in such
business H A
We will sell you
goods for less money
than the holding ad
Expenses will convince you
B Weille Jr.
Go to the Edmond Hotel on
the N.E. Corner of the
Square on Lafayette Square.
Dec 30th After breakfast
took st. Car for the Ex. Fair
Way the Orange trees covered
with ripe fruit. Cisterns
are tanks above ground
to be Completed for
with Florida Citrus Exhibit-
Mineral Springs Reputation
of Bestowal Mineral Water 18th
high 26 ft. Living Chain 60 Sam
long at corner Bay.

Collection of Indian Curios &c.
Totem Poles
Canoes
Kennel of Sled Dogs, Dog Sleds
Birch bark Canoes, Lumber
Mens boats to be.
Go up by Elevator to top of
Tower 123½ ft high
2nd Main building
Good view of river City in the
distance, See Berry
Trees in fruit in Horticultural
Glass house. 2 young Bears
in a cage eating corn off the Cob.
An Alaska Sea Otter playing
diving & swimming in his round
stone basin arched over with
wire netting. Concert Hall
in Main building
Women's Dept.
Dog Sled Dogs, Birch Bark
Trees on East Side of Mall
Fortification Hill,
Car back to Kennel St

The Post Commander (Capt.
Gets a Bunch, mailed for
Uncle to take a bathing visit
to the Post Office, back to
Immaculate. Suffice it.
Dec 3/ et Go ~~Left~~ to P. O.
Custom house in Dome building
Very large fine building, marble
& Granite. Down to the
river, many Levee
Cotton Cotton bales, sugar
barrels, Tobacco boxes
find no Steam engines
running. Visit - St Louis Cathe-
dral, Jackson Square,
* U.S. Mint & French Mar-
ket. Go to docks again
& See the river Down
Ship & Architect - Load-
ing & Unloading Steamers
Some of the ~~Ships~~ Ships
Take about two to load or

Carried all to the
[illegible] Everything
had to be [illegible] from
Hand by [illegible] trunks & mov-
ables. Bought tickets
& paid our Hotel bill
went to our Depot left
our baggage & found that
our train leaved at 5.30 &
the Baton Rouge accommodation
at 4.20. By taking the 4.20
train we had an hour
& more to the Sugar
plantations. Had to go to the
uptown office twice to get
permission to do this.
We just stepped in to the St.
Charles Hotel.
Went right to the Depot
from the Carnel and got
out on time. Rich fields, sugar
plantations & sugar houses.
Baton Rouge at about 6

Leave State House
Depot
Depot
Arrive at Depot 2 min. per train
comes up We get aboard
the sleeper and go to bed
Make up Clear at 7 min.
Arr 1 1886 Breakfast
at Clarksdale Miss Arrive at 9 o'clock
Drive after passed Flower-
ville Dff Burned house
Well place in the road
building Cotton fields Saw several
Cemeteries at 12 O'clock
Uncle understanding that train would not leave Mill
1 o'clock went up to the P.O.
got back at 1.20 just as the train
moved out, P.O. has shut up
for 1 Hour, Had to wait
the P.M. I got a letter.
Had Apples, Crackers
Figs & Pecans until
dinner.

Steps. [illegible]
[illegible] left our
sleepers at Hemford. Took
breakfast over after
crossing the line into
New York. Reached Jamestown
in the rain 5:30 a.m. Jan 26
Left at 7:30 a.m. Had
watches, daylights & pickles
for breakfast. 12.15
Cin. Union Depot at 12:15
Louisville to Cin. on
the Ohio & Miss. R.R.
Ourtrain on the Cin
& Columbus Midland
leaves at 4.10 Negro
porter & Conductor
Lunch at the dining
car. At noon, take a
short rifle with all
Cars & have a track
for 2 hours to amuse
ment - Fish & Hunt Ducks &

It has rained all day
and still does. The City
is enveloped in fog
& mist. But there is no
snow in the hills.
We see the Post Office
& Custom House, very
large & imposing.
The Court House & Jail
" " " & partly de-
stroyed by the riots
a few days before.
We saw the Water Works
Reservoir Lake Merritt
&c, a great drawing
very fine residences
the Art Museum, the
Cable R R
Old Mission
Home Hotel
Etc. Back to Hotel

Bill:

Please return

when read.

-Mayne-

Barnard Castle

Dear Grandmother.

I am very tired
tonight & have a terrible headache, but I
promised Aunt Ethel I would write
before another day, & really wanted
to write, but have not had time.
I suppose you will want to know about
my examination & everything. The first
one was the Junior
office, & there were the boys examined
one month said I passed a very good
examination. They asked me no difficult
questions, & hardly any, but what any
child could answer, so that there is
no real merit on my part.
I have now entered the school & there are

[illegible] Friday, Bessie [illegible]
[illegible] & Lou [illegible] [illegible] my own
[illegible] dear Ma is very pleasant.
[illegible] is very pleasant & a good [illegible]
[illegible] school.
Uncle Elisha does not go to Sea Gate
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
visiting for his own [illegible] [illegible]
down from town & I think
that he will do them good.
Mr Belmain was up here a short
time ago, he has now once
or twice since become back.
I have heard from Mother since
since you left. She wants Leon
to regime there. Give [illegible] to the
children & our friends when [illegible]
it.
The chickens here are getting well.
They has gain two that the weather
suits them.
Sarah & Rose [illegible] all unite
down to them Mr. Ancell. one of the
maids' church. I have seen in
Langor & a fine man & like to
preach.

Bangor

November 24th 1838.

Dear Grandmother.

We have just risen from a hearty meal & now we will endeavour to scribble a little to you. It is a beautiful morning, & has been a beautiful day. Mary and I have been to church. The service was held in the room of the first Parish church, which has just been completed. It is quite neat and handsome, the ceiling is very low, & somewhat disfigured by fresco painting. Mr Ingraham preached the sermon, the subject was, the need of wise men to tell what the people ought to do. He ought, Mary says to have written his opinion as to what ought to be done. but he did not. He spoke at length of John Baptist, & became somewhat excited, but not boisterous. The shepherd & his daily, were in the fold;

I could not think when he was speaking "the news of the day" how many person would listen to some words in a discourse [illegible] that remarkable person age. I suppose Mr Welbur preached to you & that you had a nice fine sermon. I have wished many times a day to be at home to day, indeed I do not know but what I might have been more thankful if I had been at home

[illegible] next year, if nothing happens.

Mrs. L. Almeda was down a few weeks ago and stayed a week or two. Jane came down after her and certainly, he was very much changed he was very much refined, & during the reading of scripture & prayer his manner was so different; he kneels in prayer, I like. I have not seen but her letters since a change. She is coming down in a few weeks & I expect to have a splendid time with her. Jane said that were since she can remember how he

be a cutter face from serious feeling, but that he has tried to drown all thinking in business or something. You advised me to speak to them on the subject, & so I did, sometimes I feared I said too much. but never did exhort. Thursday last James promised me that he would give his immediate attention to the subject. When I received the letter announcing the change I must say I was surprised, I did not know why but I was believing it would come, but I was so afraid that he would wait & put it off. If I only knew that any influence had any thing to do with it, I should be so happy but I can hardly believe it. But I have written you a great deal about James & Lizzie, now we are waiting for us to sing & we must sing almost all the time. George Putnam comes up frequently & we have a nice

time. George is very fond of Ada & it is not to be a secret that he is engaged to Fanny Ware

visits from Miss Bray & I have some nice times to gether. We are very much engaged in the afternoons. We had our heads examined for phrenological purposes it brought out some very fine points in our character as also what we should follow. Commencement week, & we are to have a lecture on novel reading by Mr. Leach. Mrs. Jones is husband is going to have her picture taken & likewise my self immediately. Fanny Chase has not yet decided about the time & he is afraid he will have to leave before we get. But I have reached the bottom of my page & I have said all I can think of & I must close with much love to all my friends & yourself.

Your loving Granddaughter
Hattie.

Send To
Mother

Berry, Nov 8, 1896

My Dear Mother,

I am very sorry that I have not written before, but I have been very busy lately. The days are so short that I dont have any time after school before dark, and in the evening I cipher. I have got almost to Decimal Fractions ciphering at home, but in my class in school I have got only to Multiplication of Compound Numbers. In the morning before school I take care of baby. He is a great fat rogue for him, just beginning to sit alone. I dont think that he is very forward for his age, not so much so as for his size. He says Papie (for Leonard) quite plainly, and Mattie too. She brings the milk most every morning, and Dad too as he calls his father. Tomorow if it is pleasant she is going to

Church for the first time in
his life. I wonder what he will
do. I guess he will cry. He almost
always does when his face is washed.
I wonder how Politics are going in
these days. There is quite a war between
some of the school girls, because
some of them vote for Buchanan.
Yesterday the Buckaniers thought
they had won the day, and to-day
the Fremonters think they have.
There is great excitement here about
it.

In school the girls choose one
or two to read a piece on Thursday and Saturday. They have
chosen me twice. I dont think of
any thing more only that I am
getting most as bad as I was in
Milo. Good bye,

From your affec-
daughter Lizzie

[illegible], April 11, 1869.

Dear Mother

I suppose I have told you
about my visit at Hallock's. I felt sad
to say that I could not stay there any longer,
for as soon as the week was by, (as
that short time I was engaged on in this district.
Mr Leavitt, Custom House Officer in
Bangor, who has been lumbering in by here, has
undertaken to have a lumbercut on this ridge.
Mr John Howard and his wife both drink
and sell rum, and his farm is mortgaged to
the man who sells him the rum, and he
sold the mortgage so Mr Howard is in a pretty bad
fix. Mr Leavitt has offered to redeem his
farm and to give him business to put him
in the way of paying for it, if he would quit
rum entirely and if he did not he would
take the law on him.

Leavitt said that there must be more
school in this district, and got up a subscrip-
tion for a private school, and headed it with
$.00, and got another man out of the district,
who has lumbered in here before, to pay $40
and they have got about $160, and want me
to teach the school.

Eldridge has let his farm for a year to Mr Hiram Howard, and he has gone to work out in this town. I wish he had gone off somewhere and tried to find a wife while he is gone.

James is hauling out cedar on the crew a little while at a time mornings, has hauled more enough for a hundred rods of fence he has got his wood pile all cut up. James tapped about a dozen trees a while ago just for a taste, and he brings the sap to the house for us to boil down. Now we'll see how Charlie make out with his sap.

I guess we shall invite Sally to send her girls the children Louisa up here to go to school this summer, she never went to school a day in her life, and it is too far for her to go alone through the woods to the village, I think it would do Louisa almost as much good to learn that she can live without her mother, as any thing else she would learn. She has learned very fast this winter, and can read almost as well as Mary can.

I expect to have scholars aged from three to eighteen. Martha Packard intends to go with her little brother three years old. You remember her, she was my Sabath School lassie.

summer. Don't you think I shall get enough trying to teach her now. I expect there will be about sixteen scholars and five or six of them never went to school any.

They say that if a teacher can teach a school in her own district, she can teach most any where, but I rather think I shall get along pretty well with it.

I want to get some rewards of merit to coax them along with. Don't you think that will do better than to try to drive them. [illegible] is to begin as soon as the ways are settled, and we have got lots to do, my summer dresses to fix, cleaning house, sewing of all kinds, and piles of rags to work up. I think it somewhat doubtful whether I get that collar worked before school begins.

I don't see as I can think of any thing more of importance to write, so will close.

affectionately,

Lizzie

DEAR UNCLE

I THANK YOU

VERY MUCH FOR

SCRAP BOOK PICTURE

YOU VERY MUCH

GOOD BY

MARIAN

Mr. F. S. Metcalf

Elyria

Ohio

6 PM
97

Mt-Hope Oct. 25th 1879

Mr. J. N. Metcalf

Dear Brother

Your letter of the ninth received and I will now try to answer it. This leaves us all quite well but busy getting ready for cold weather. We are having a beautiful fall for doing work so many bright sunny days and its been quite warm only a few while frosts Alex has just started in husking corn. We have been picking corn for some time feeding hogs. and we are still feeding sixty nice young hogs. we sold eleven

a week ago old hogs that weighed 450 lbs apiece. Crops have been quite good here. with the exception of potatoes I think that we will have to buy a few. I received a letter from Myrta Howes. about the same time that I received yours.

Now in regard to the questions you asked I can answer part of them but not all.

1 I do not know the date of my Father & Brothers marriage

2. William Elliott Howes was born March 22nd 1817. and died in Olympia April 5th 1852. Elizabeth Neal Howes born Sept. 27th 1817. died July 10th 1859.

3. Thomas. W Howes. married Jane Whiteside at Mt. Hope

Wisconsin [illegible]

Thomas. William Howes son of Thomas H. Howes was born in Ft Atkinson May 9th 1879.

My mother William Elliott Howes was born May 10th 1844 died Dec. 5th 1883.

4 My Father son of Alexander and Margaret Cairns born August 1st 1844.

5 I cannot give you the date of Henrys marriage it was I think in Feb. 1870. I know the year but am not so sure about the month.

6 I know but very little about my Grandparents. Grandmother Howes died at my Fathers a year or two before Fathers death Grandmother West was alive when Mother died and that's

all that - I know about - there
If there is anything else that
you would like to know and I
can help you I will be glad
to do so.
We are always glad to hear from
you.

Yours affectionately
Aggie & Cairns

Isaac Metcalf, born in Royalston, Feb. 1783, married Nov. 27, 1810, Lucy Heywood the daughter of Silas Heywood of Royalston. She died childless June 27th 1820.

Isaac Metcalf married again, Nov. 1, 1821, the widow of Charles Rich of Warwick, who had three children, Charles Wilder Rich born April 2, 1808, who lived in Milo, Maine from 1830 to 186 when he removed to Elyria, Ohio, where he died

Almeda Rich born Oct 5th 1809, married May 19 1834 James Madison Sears of Brownville who died Nov 30th 1844. She married again Sept 8th 1852 Deacon Gilman Clyder of Brownville, Maine, where she still lives.

Elizabeth Emma Rich born Aug. 27th 1811, married 185 to Judge Elijah Dewell, Elyria, Ohio, where she still lives.

The widow of Charles Rich, above, was born in Warwick March 1, 1787, Emma Mayo Stevens, fourth daughter of Wilder Stevens by Elizabeth Mayo, married Charles Rich May 20, 1807, who died Dec. 1st, 1811.

The widow married Isaac Metcalf of Royalston March 1, 1821.

My father Isaac Metcalf was born Feb 3, 1783.
the sixth of the eleven children of Peletiah
Metcalf and Lydia Fairly. Six died in infancy.
Peletiah Metcalf was born June 29, 1744, the
second third of the nine children of
Peletiah Metcalf and Hepzibah Mann.
Peletiah Metcalf was born March 22, 1714,
of the thirteen children of Michael Met-
calf and Meletiah Fisher.
Michael Metcalf was born Jan 25, 1687,
third of the ten children of
Deacon Eleazar Metcalf & Mary
Eleazar Metcalf was born March 26 1653,
the ~~fifth~~ fifth of the seven children of
Michael Metcalf and Mary Fairbanks.
Michael Metcalf a., born in Tormin Eng.
Aug. 29, 1620, the third of the ten chil
dren of Michael Metcalf & Sarah
who came to Boston and Dedham April 6, 1637.
Michael Metcalf, the Immigrant of Dedham
of Cornish was born at Sutterford June 17, 1586, the
eldest son of Rev Leonard Metcalf Rector of Tatterford

8 Isaac Stevens Metcalf, oldest son of Isaac Metcalf and Anna Mayo Stevens Rich, born at Templeton, Mass. Jan 25th 1822. To Boston in 1827. To Milo, Maine April 1831. On the farm of half brother Charles Wilder Rich. Common schools of Milo; Boston the winter of 1835-6. Bangor High School, for board under David Worcester, 1836 to 1840; working for board at Aunt Mary Parker's. Fitted for College. Then teaching County Schools winters, working on the farm summers. In 1843, assistant Teacher in Foxcroft Academy, in winter teaching the Foxcroft Village School, meanwhile taking the ... College Year with Thomas Tash Principal of the Academy.

Sept. 1844 Entered Bowdoin College Sophomore, graduating June 1847. In the meantime teaching large schools at Turner, Gardiner, Topsham and Orono. In both Turner High School and Topsham Village, over ...

in one room, under one teacher; & I spent
two months, attending morning sessions at
College, & "kept" most distant objects,
graduating with all expenses paid and out of debt.
Graduating June 1847, went the same week to surveys
on the Vermont & Massachusetts R.R. The chief
Samuel F Johnson, saying "Yes, you may go out
with the party, though I do not think much of College
boys, they do not amount to much on a R.R. survey"
But at the end of the first month, finding that
the "College boy" was the best axe man in the party,
he gave him an instrument and $60. a per month.
Vt. & Mass. R.R. tile completed, mostly at
Northfield and "Grants"; locating the "Branch"
line from Grants to Greenfield, and the Town,
River Bridge at Greenfield. Then on the
New Hampshire Central R.R. then being con-
structed from Manchester to Concord, living
mostly at "Parker's" on Goffstown, was hired to

Hermon Eaton, but being elected, quite an honor for so young an Engineer, I soon left the employ of Hermon Eaton and Clarence Hunt on the Connecticut River, via Bradford, Vermont, Lake, and Sunapee Mountain, with Connell, and working up the Contract portion of the route. In the meantime by special appointment spending a month or two in completing the location of the Portland & Bangor Line and locating the Bridge across the Kennebec River at Waterville, Maine.

all the i am a bone fifty ye[illegible] running back to my childhood and youth when i was a child the [illegible] of a living with me the first things i can remember i was afraid i should die and go to hell i had a fit of sickness when very young i thought i could die and be miserable i thought i had a sence of the need i had Later i found i could do nothing of my self being very young and very sick i can remember but litle of my distress at that time i remember my fears ware gon and i was not afraid to die i do not remember of living the ingles of god at that time of i have many a time sence before this i thought if i could be spared i would live more to his honour but o how few returns of love for my redeem favour when i was returned to my health if mind i could do nothing of my self my strength was weakness i had a heart of unbelief prone to depart from the living god my former resolutions often kept in my mind of living better but how to preform i found not i tried to be under convarn of mind i could have no fear of death or hell or i had before it thought i was the stupidest [illegible] world i none had a litel sence of [illegible] goodness to me [illegible] repeting these word from out jesus the people of god the only happy people to me i loved to hear them talk about spiritual things but i thought i could not talk with them i was afraid when i was about twelve years old it lay up on my mind to go to the baptist meeting but none of my mates went thear and i thought i could not take up the cross and for a long time i was in a very stupid frame of mine i wandred in the dark a great while but did not know how to hear the children of god speaken a good it would strike me to the heart i really thought they were of the apet of gods eye and it was better for them if a milstone ware haned about there nek and they caust in to the see then to offend one of these litel ones the marvelous ours i had but did not yet my mind to any more i cant tel but litel of my mind and trials in those days my brother was brout into liberty in his mind when i was in my seventeen year if i mistake not i thought he was taken and i was left about many trials i pased throu i cannot repeat more thing i well remember being in company these words run in my mind remember o young man in thy youth and let thy hart cheer the in the days of thy youth but know thou that for all these things god will bring the into judgment i wished that could be the need than had of an interest in christ but i stood at the cross and did not warm them i wandred in the dark mind with thou be with me in tring to repeat some of thy dealing with me at that i not not attempt the work a lone when i was about twenty years old there was a girl cilled with living in the neighborhood city called by name

her sudden death and the preaching of sermons the fourth after from the
thirteenth of luke fine first verely i tel you nay but except ye
repent ye shall all likewise perish was the means of the conuersion
of my sister i thout i was left to perish i was glad my brother
and sister was happy i had many a sorrowful and thinking one miserable
condition i was maried when twenty one years old when i was in my twenty
fourth year i heard a sermon preached from the second of corinthons fifth chapter
now then we are ambassadors for christ as though god did beseech you by us we
pray you in christs stead be ye reconciled to god i thought i was one of the
it pleased the lord to [illegible] me a miserable creature i was and the
way of salvation through christ i saw i could do nothing of my self
i prayed of the lord to shew me the ways i was in if he had done such a
great work for me that i might praise his name for ever i was afraid
i should be deceived i thout i should not call the comunications of godfear
i should it he had don such a great work for me his name ought
every i pited any body that had not there will loved
great reason to rejoice to that i was worthy to suffer
for christ i tried to prove i thout i should lay up treasure
in heaven where moth nor rust could not corrupt nor theves
break throw nor steel it turned in my mind what are you adoing but
laing up treasure in heaven i saw such a sight of the saints and angels
a bowing around the throune of god as i never had i thout theare
was a brite and shining path led rite there it turned in my mind
shall i all ways feel as i do now i thought i hoped i should also
have a greater and diferent of the thinges of another world i thout
i could say with mr john rogers come well come death the end
of feard i am prepared to die i was verry happy that night the next
day i was afraid i was deceived but i thout i could give my self and all
to the lord had some time i hope where my heelp was that if any
woman sin he helps me adwalate with the fallen jesus christ the rettesous
i pited every body should praise the lord so i pited poor
sinners i thout i had most to ask that the world for me i thout
was the least of all gods children and most unworthy i could say
lord it is enouf if i am thine not long after this temptation lay upon
my mind i fainted at the end i got into darkness i cout he that puts
his hands to the plow and looks backs is not fit for the kingdom of
heaven it pleased the lord to bow my will to my obtion i had a great
blessing in it i thout the done like spirit was there i beg every creat
to act duty and what ever there hands find to do to do it with all
heart the lord delites in the cheerful giver i joined the baptis church
immediatly i found to obay was better then sacrefice the lord [illegible]
with many and a blessing in the church is in our family he brot many
sinners to the fealds of the truth we had happy days in the church
to gather to it all the enemy of our souls made great invades
up on us for our backsliding against him with ca your heart to mourn

[illegible] near [illegible] many [illegible] and a [illegible] he has tried us with.

Pelatiah Metcalf was Born August 30 • 1771
Died August 20 1777
Lydia Metcalf was Born Sept 28 • 1773
Died August 28 1777
Isaac Metcalf was Born Decmb 29 • 1775
and Died August 11 1777
Sally Metcalf was Born Febru 3 • 1778
and Died march 13 1795
Pelatiah Metcalf was Born July 29 1780
Isaac Metcalf was Born Febru 3 1783
Jacob Metcalf was Born June 7 1785
Joel Metcalf was Born July 9 • 1787
and Died August 5 1789
Elias Metcalf was Born July 31 • 1789
Timothy Metcalf and Dyed August 21 1789
was born Januy 22 • 1790
Enoch Metcalf m. Dyed Decemb 31 1790
was Born Febru 27 1792
Ezra Metcalf was Born march 11 • 1794
and Died Sept 17 1795

complaint

o that i might be still & not open my mouth by way of com-
some time i can see the lord do all things well & all
things should work for good for them that love god that
room in the title of his word should fail but the heart aken
ounes i had no one nere but those that has been children & near
friends but it has not been kind to me a poor worm this
he has spared the life of seven of our dear children i hope one
of them is gone from us i hope in the mearcy of god he will keep
him from sin & that he may be the child of an interest in christ
alone is it is thy blessed mind to bring this family to the knee of
christ if it is not i dont care for great things in this world i am mean low.
i did not keep a diery of my life from my youth up and recited my
trials as they came along if i am right thy grace impart still in
the right to stay if i am wrong o teach my heart to find that
better way and if i might make some reserve and dirty did not tell
i love my god with zeal so great that i would give him all
i feel as if i want to be home & all my what i could do for them
that were for the honor of god and the good of poor
Perishing sinners but this cord must be cut or they must perish

On Time

Say is there ought that can convey
An image of its transient stay!
'Tis an hands-breadth; 'tis a tale;
'Tis a vessel under sail;
'Tis a courier's straining steed;
'Tis a shuttle in its speed; 'tis an eagle in its way
darting down upon its prey;
'Tis an arrow in its flight,
Mocking the pursuing sight;
'Tis a vapour in the air;
'Tis a whirlwind rushing there;
'Tis a short lived fading flower;
'Tis a rainbow on a shower;
'tis a momentary ray, smileing in a wint day
'Tis a torrent's rapid stream;
'Tis a shadow; 'tis a dream;
'Tis the closing watch of night

Dying at the rising light
'Tis a landscape vainly gay;
Painted upon crubling Clay;
'Tis a lamp that waste its fire
'Tis a smoke that quick expires;
'Tis a bubble; 'Tis a sigh;
Be prepared O! man, to die.

Hannah Sleywood

an article

an article is a word set before a noun
to better to determinate its significa tion
and extent: There are but two articles in
english viz a and the. a is placed before
words beginning with a consonant as a man a ho
but when the word begins with a vowel or a
silent h the letter n is commonly
added to render the pronunciation

To Annie in the Hospital.

The football hero strives to make a score
And breaks his ribs, his collar, or his dome;
In strange, wild lands the trav'ler loves to roam;
The soldier fights afar on fields of war,
Inured to danger, caked with mud and gore;
The sailor braves the perils of the foam.
All think with longing of the calm of Home
Where risks of life and limb assail no more.

But you, whose peaceful life should all be free
From perils faced by men who strive and Kill,
In whose safe ways and works we ever see
But thoughtfulness for others, and goodwill;
With broken shoulder and with watered knee
You bear the wounds of life without its thrill.

Tough Luck.

Mother Land

By Gail Hamilton

"He was born in London, but came when a child to Ohio where he was educated. He at first said that he remembered nothing at all of England, but afterwards asked —

"'Aren't there little flowers that grow along by the fences in England, that they call cups?'

"'Buttercups? Yes.'

"'And another little flower in the fences that smells very nice — hawo, is it? — and another in the grass?'

"'Primroses,' I suggested.

"'Oh, yes. That's it — cups and primroses. I thought it was in England, there wa'n't no such in Ohio. I can remember going into the country with my mother and picking them. That's the only thing I can remember in England

O Land beyond the bounding Sea!
O queen enthroned in glory!
O mother of a mighty race,

Renowned in song and story!
Rich in memorials of the past.
In promise of the future—
Joined by the great acts of to day
In not unworthy suture—
Rich in all deeds of deathless fame
That show divine in humane;
Rich in the life of noble man.
And of heroic woman;
Rich in that love, by Jesus taught.
Which maketh all men brothers—
Rich in each gift that God bestows.
But passing rich in mothers.
From Canterbury's old renown.
From Windsor's quiet meadows.
From "Silver Avon's" holy ground.
From Cheviot's purple shadows.
Thy children pass to every land
On which the sun is shining.
The sturdy strength of Saxon nerve
With Tropic fire combining;

But still, wherever English hand
To English hand gives greeting,
Wherever in the English breast
An English heart is beating,
Sweet memories of the mother land
Will come like guests unbidden
Beneath the gathering moss of time
Revealing fountains hidden—
Sweet memories, not of moated tower,
Or ivied castle hoary,
Of princely Hampton's pictured halls,
Or Hastings doubtful glory—
But of the primrose in the hedge,
The daisy in the meadow,
The cups that cast on dimpled chins
A shining golden shadow—
Of emerald turf, with violets flecked,
By young feet crushed unheeding,
As pattered they along the way
A mother's hand was leading,

Brown locks may whiten on the brow.
Bright eyes be dim with weeping.
The child grown old, the mother cold
Beneath the daisy sleeping;
But still, when he who holds the key
Of memory's mystic portal,
Shall for a space unbar the gates,
To show the soul immortal,
Though Arctic snows on Afric sands
Stretch dreamily before him,
The fragrant gales of English vales
Will breath their sweetness o'er him,

O mother's heart! O mother's hand!
Ye work a wondrous mission—
Ye smite a hark whose thrill, perchance,
Is hidden from your vision.
Yet touch it wisely, for the chords
Will stay their trembling never,
But, stretching through the mists of time,
Go quivering on forever.

(Selected)

The most difficult duty which a young person has to perform, is to deny with inexorable firmness, requests which he ought not to grant. When urged to compliance by compliment, the desire of pecuniary advantage to give offence, and various blameless mixed motives, the little monosyllable *no* is a kind of Rubicon, or rather the bow of Archilles. Whoever knows how to utter it with mingled gentleness and firmness, cannot be said to want the rudiments of a strong character."

A Short Lesson. Flint

"Beauty and youth are not life's every charm.
O mortal! think you, is not *virtue* fair?
It lends a grace that years can never harm;
The *mind* ne'er feels a blight while virtue governs there!"

St Paul July 21st 1877

Mr Editor

In the "Lines" of this morning I noticed a "Returning Answers" The story is one of great beauty. I've always admired it, and the lesson it teaches is one of inestimable value. How true it is that the world without us is an echo of the world within. Then how careful should we be in our guard of that inner world. That fountain from whence proceeds every thing that is "lovely and of good report," or whose troubled waters continually "cast up mire and dirt," Now my dear Sir would not an application of this lesson to you Editors of St Paul, in your official intercourse with each other be of great benefit to yourselves and to your readers, are the remarks which you are daily making respecting each other, either amusing, instructive or elevating to the moral character. Why not receive instruction from this beautiful Legend;

Yours Respectfully
Fl,

"FLINT."—We would like to hear from this correspondent again. His(her?) suggestions shall be applied.

...n Saint Anthony Street, and the shingles ma...
...it laid upon roofs in the vicinity, the public are
...judge of its merits. Head rights for Ramsey and
...ounty to sell said machine, for sale, and deeds giv-
BAKER & KNOWLES. Robert st.
or DREW & CO., St. Anthony-st.

...,000 shingles for sale; enquire of
DREW & CO.

July 13. 1857-d1f.

$10,000 TO LOAN.

...L ESTATE SECURITY, by WM. T. BROWNSON
...llor at Law, Saint Anthony Street, Saint Paul.

Assorted Shot, for sale by
E. F. IRVINE & CO.

C. C. Felton. before the pupils of the State Normal School at Salem Mass. Aug 5th/57

"Consider what a being is man, with what vast and varied capacities he comes from his Maker's hand. The body, with its apparatus of senses, how curiously constructed: how fearfully and wonderfully made. This body is to be trained up to be the willing and active companion, servant, vassal of the mind. It must do the bidding of the intellectual principle enthroned in invisible majesty - for good or for evil - - - - - - wonderful indeed are its adaptations to the surrounding universe, and marvellous is the hand that fashioned it. But the kingly and immortal mind - what shall we say of its superior and transcendent miracles! No wonder sages have dreamed that it is a part of the Divine Mind, separated for a moment, to be reunited for Eternity. - - - - - - But man is exposed to evils and dangers both of body and of mind. He needs the guidance of superior wisdom, at every step and stage of his mortal being.

The Educated Man - the educated woman, how noble a spectacle do they not present. Behold him in the majestic beauty of his well built and carefully developed form; his senses true and rapid; his strength unwearied by low indulgences, and undiminished by luxurious neglect. His sleep is sound and dreamless. He wakes with the sun, and gazes with a never-ceasing wonder at the miracle of his rising,

The morning song of the birds, is music to his ear.
He steps forth from his chamber and treads with delight
upon the freshened earth. The early breezes salute
his keen senses with a healthy thrill, The blue heav-
ens breath a tranquil joy into his uncontaminated
soul. The hum of the wakening world rouses
his energies and draws him with a sweet allure-
ment to his customary labors. If he tills the earth, he
walks the fields with brave and vigorous step,
If he be a professional man. he takes up his unfinished
task, with the happy consciousness that good work
shall be done to day, If he be a teacher. he gladly
and hopefully goes to the scene of his appointed duties.
and with ever renewing interest and hope, watches
over the daily growth of those - the young promise of
the land - whose minds and characters are
entrusted to his oversight and conscientious
care, Behold her too, the paragon of
intellectual, moral and physical beauty -
the educated woman - the queen of the earth -
the charm of society - the best companion,
adviser, guide, friend of man - the better
half of humanity, Culture has added to
her natural delicacy a new refinement,
Letters have clothed her womanly graces
with the permanent charm of taste and
intellect, She moves in her destined (?)

path of duty. as if she had descended from a higher sphere. to adorn, delight, instruct and elevate society. The imputed weakness of her sex is transformed into a strength. whose gentle power is mightier than the boasted strength of man. In adversity she turns her affluence into the noblest uses, and becomes the almoner of Heaven. Her presence sheds upon the splendors of wealth a grace and a charm without which riches are a vulgar show, She calls around her the creations of art and poetry.— herself the loveliest creation of both. She summons order out of chaos; she turns discord into harmony, She scatters moral darkness by the genial sunshine of her soul. In adversity, her virtues shine out with the most beautiful lustre, Her brave soul refuses to be cast down, Here, certainly, she rises to a conspicuous height above him who is sometimes called her lord and master, With what uncomplaining firmness she encounters privation, with what courageous devotion she bows her noble beauty to the toils and hardships which sudden poverty, like a cruel conqueror, lays upon her, With what meek and soul subduing submission she accepts the most humiliating conditions of existance, and without a murmur leaves the enchanted bowers in which her youth was passed to tread the rugged ways of duty

through the hard realities of life, and with what ~~holy~~ gentle and holy resignation she lays down life itself, leaving to those who survive her the blessing of her spotless example, and the unfading memory of her dying smile,

Can a whole community be formed of such men and such women? Oh is the hope that such a result may sometime on Earth, in some blessed clime, be attained, the dream of a visionary? Perhaps it is, but every step in the moral and intellectual progress of the race, is a step towards such a consummation, At all events, it will do no harm to set the mark high, - to aim high; for our success will be high in proportion, — — — — —

In our system of education we have attained ourselves too much to books, and thus the letter killeth. Let me not undervalue the precious treasures of ancient and modern wisdom contained in books, but let not books take the place of the free and conscientious action of the mind upon the eternal truths of science, the beautiful forms of nature, the admirable laws of creation, Truth, my friends, in its broadest sense, must be the guiding star of education. Error carelessly or wilfully adopted is crime. Guard the immortal spirits, whose present and future destinies are in a great measure entrusted to your care, from this as well as from every other crime

"We all have a name written somewhere among the records of the heart, dearer than all other names beside - a name that brings with it either pure enjoyment or bitter, bitter yearnings"

"Those we love go home to their Father, when we remember only what is beautiful of them - years of long life might rob them of what makes us cherish their memory so fondly - now their beauty will remain unfading through the long lapses of an unlapsing eternity, and no stain on their purity can make us love them less"

Love of Samuel

Say that she did not like to leave Babylon, while Gertrude spoke up — I am willing to go anywhere with Frank, O. no! said Mr Conscience; Suppose Frank should lead you into the world of sinful pleasures! O. then, said Gertrude I would go and win him back;"

Chap? 6- "Now mark this, said Frank, whenever you see a woman who receives with avidity tales of scandal, who has, in one word, a poor opinion of her sex, then be sure you have in your presence one whose heart is the home of sensuality, One single glance of her eye stamps her as dark and dishonest;"

Chap? 10- — "And is my whole pilgrimage to be a conflict? Asked Annie, What then, is meant by the "full assurance of faith"? (Dr Goodwin) Every new day brings a new lesson. Every new leaf presents new ideas, new hopes, and new fears. The assurance of faith is the last

attainment of a Christian"

"It is very discouraging to hear you talk so." Said Annie in a most despondingly tone,

"You will attain it when you have spent a life in following on to know the Lord. The vista of life looks distant, but how brief at last!" But Dr. said Gertrude a life is not measured by years, but by emotions, and how long that life will be which is so full of new states of feeling - of hope, of sorrow, and, worst of all, of temptation and sin." — — — —

"It is not wise, my dear Mrs Freeman, to reason and speculate on matters so high above us, we are of the earth, earthy. Our first queries are rarely those which should be first. Let me tell you, our first duty is to love God, our Creator, our Saviour, our Sanctifier, and to assure ourselves and others that we do so. Our second duty is to arm ourselves for the highest interest of all around us, and charity wide as the circle of human suffering"

"O yes! sighed Annie. But it is strange that, knowing so much, we don't know any more. If you knew more, replied the doctor, there would be less exercise of faith." "Then it is—faith! faith! — when what I want is certainty"

"Let me tell you my child. said the doctor, in the words of the great and good Swaler. "the last attainment of a Christian is. to say— I can wait."

Chap 14 — "Are you a pilgrim on a pilgrimage to the Celestial City? asked Grant. Yes I hope so was the reply.

Then is the Wicket Gate and Beelzebub's Castle and the Interpreters House? Can't be that we are in the right way?

The pilgrim smiled and said. Ah! You have in your mind the Pilgrim's book. written long since by the great Bunyan. You forget two centuries have elapsed since he started on his journey. and great changes have been made in that time. not only in the manner of making the pilgrimage.

but the route. His road lay directly up into the hill country, a very rugged way; but the path which you followed lay over the smooth and verdant plain. For a long time pilgrims would take the rough road, because, they said, it was the shortest, safest, and most direct, but their successors made a grand discovery when they determined that the back of a kettle is of just the same length whether it stands up or lies down. So they preferred going round hills to climbing them, and more recently the various methods of blasting and rail roads have come into general use. But the town finds hills to climb, and I think we are in sight of one which must be climbed, for there is no getting round it.

"And does one go through the Wicket Gate?" asked Annie.

"Shall we not visit the Interpreter's house?" said Olive.

"Is there no castle Apollyon?" asked Gertrude.

All these questions came upon the pilgrim at once, and he confessed his entire ignorance.

"——— You don't mean to climb when there is a plain pathway before us!" exclaimed Frank, laying his hand upon the pilgrim's shoulder.

the pathway was a railroad, tunneled through the hills, and the pilgrim who was to be found at the Wicket Gate was the station agent.

BRO'THERS GET FAME ON OBERLIN GRIDIRON

Several Families Contribute Two or More Members to the Crimson and Gold Football Teams During Last Two Decades.

AFTER RECORDING RETURN TO
IRVING W. METCALF.
OBERLIN, OHIO.

When you mention the Oberlin football eleven you cannot but think of some of the families who have given up two or more members to furnish gridiron glory for the crimson and gold. Just what Oberlin would be without at least one representative of these famous football families is difficult to determine, for there has not been a year in the last two decades that the eleven has been without a Fauver, a Bradley, a Stimson, a Dolan, a Metcalf or a MacDaniels.

First of all, there was Clayte Fauver, now an attorney in Cleveland. He was followed by the famous twins, Win and Gar Fauver, who first acquired renown as players and later as coaches. The Bradley family also furnished three brothers to the Oberlin elevens. Clarence, who put up such a slashing game at fullback, was a member of the teams in 1898, 1899, 1900 and 1901. Dwight played an end in 1900, 1901 and 1902, while Art broke in in 1908 as an end.

Four Metcalfs contributed to the glory of Oberlin. Not one of the quartet was a giant in beef, but each had the ability of making what weight he did carry count. There was J. M. Metcalf in 1899 and 1900. Ike was a member of the elevens of 1903 and 1904. Keyes played end and tackle in 1909 and 1910, while Nelson played the same positions in 1910 and 1911.

Two MacDaniels, Everett and Laurence, played center, the former in 1903 and 1904, the latter for the three seasons ending with last fall. Laurence was also captain, and a good one at that.

It ran in the Stimson family to provide speedy halfbacks. Jim was a member of the 1902 and 1903 elevens, in the days when Case was winning everything in sight. He went to Syracuse and made that team as well. Louis Stimson is captain of this year's eleven.

Other brothers who acquired renown at Oberlin were the Monosmith boys, one an end, the other a center, and the Dolans, Francis and John. Francis was one of the best tackles that ever went down the field, while John was also a fairly good player.

Just now Louis Stimson is the only representative of these families on the crimson and gold eleven.

WANTS FASTER MEN

Interested in IO MAKING QUOTS

shades, black velvet collars, wool lining, Venetian yokes. Splendid garments for 2½ to 10-year boys and decidedly good value at

$6.50

Bennet & Fish

301-303-305 Euclid

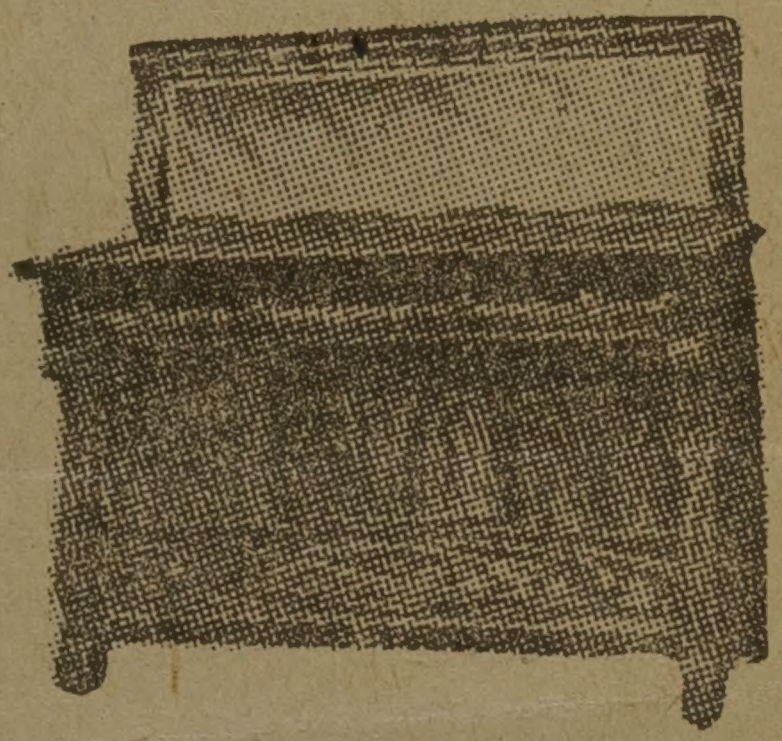
Scroll Colonial Folding-Top Table

300-Page Clothbound Book on Hygiene

"Viavi System of Treatment"

Free On Application.

Lecture, "Science of Health," Wednesday at 2:30 p. m. during the season. 406 Caxton. bldg. No admission charge.



This is the Way We Have Reduced Dining Set Prices This Week:

A Colonial Dining Set in golden oak—colonial buffet, six colonial chairs (genuine leather box slip

Let it Stand!

We hear it authoritatively announced by prominent Democrats of the Convention, that a unity upon one Constitution is impossible, unless the Republicans will yield their only prominent difference worthy of a Republic—the submission of the Negro Suffrage question to the people. We would avoid embarrassing the action of the compromise committee, but we cannot permit the opportunity, to pass without protesting against this unjust concession. No conciliation rather than an ignoble one!

We look with unbounded hope to the result of the conference of ten of the ablest men of the two Conventions—nobody wishes more than we that their meeting may be crowned with all success—but not over the ruins of one of the principles which a great body of men all through the North have fought for—Universal Suffrage. Let the people have the privilege to speak upon this one question—and if a gagging of *the People* is the *ultimatum* of our West End brethren, let that be the rock upon which the compromise may split! Don't give it up! It was this eternal truckling, and pandering, and fawning, this mean, servile complaisance, this locking arms with sin and hobnobbing with Satan, this striving to out-Herod and out-Devil our opponents in the commission of stupendous political crimes that killed the old Whig party. It gave up the ghost at the right time, in the right place. It died when there was nothing in it that deserved to live. If Republican delegates intend to kill the Republican party in Minnesota *quick*, let them take the same road that Benton and Clay, Choate and Webster and Winthrop did, yield every principle that the Republican party has got, bow to villainy in every form, and, in a word, make the Republican party and the Republican platform, just like the Democratic, so as to catch their votes, *and it will be done!*

For Heaven's sake, gentlemen, for the sake of a poor despised race that has been down-trodden since the Pilgrims landed, for the sake of the Territory that is, the State that is to be and the glorious party which you represent, yield not an inch of this "holy ground" of Freedom! Stick to it, and, if need be, let the Republican party be responsible for the unfortunate submission of two Constitutions, in order to maintain a living principle and to give the Sovereign People a tongue!

Lynching in Northern Minnesota.

A man arrived in this city yesterday and gave us the particulars of a case of murder and probable lynching on the Upper Mississippi. The facts are these:

On Sunday last, three half-breed Chippewas at Gull Lake, about 25 miles northwest of Crow Wing, having drunk liquor to intoxication, pitched upon an inoffensive German they met, whose name we did not learn, and, without the slightest provocation, murdered him. After crushing his skull with clubs and stones and otherwise horribly beating him, they staggered away and left him to the wild animals which abound in that region. The man was missed, sought and found where he was killed; the half-breeds were suspected, charged with the crime, and with an overbearing coolness confessed it. All the men in the vicinity assembled, took them prisoners and marched them off to Little Falls *en route* for this city.

They arrived at Little Falls on Monday, where much excitement was created among the people, who, indignant at the magnitude of the crime and the haughty demeanor of the criminals, and hearing of the difficulty of obtaining justice at the courts in this city, were determined on lynching them. By good management the Sheriff and his deputies evaded them, and got their charges on the road again for St. Paul. Arriving at Swan River, deeper excitement was created, and there was loud talk in favor of summary lynching.

After leaving this place, a company of twelve or fifteen men were despatched, who overtook them at Platte river, where the six had halted to take dinner. Here the lynchers received some accessions, and about two miles this side of Platte river they again came up to the party, when the pursuers disarmed and pinioned the Sheriff and his posse, and took the prisoners under their own protection, declaring their intention to "hang the villains" at the first good chance. Not having the power to sustain the dignity of the law, the Sheriff and posse yielded to the usurpers, and one of the Deputies came to this city. He does not know the result, but has no doubt the three men were hanged to satisfy the demands of the settlers.

MORAL. The horrible case of murder and lynching in our civilized and christianized Territory, suggests a comment or two.

1st. Let all the devilish liquor—from tip-top champagne to rot-gut whisky, be *lynched* forthwith—*i. e.* let the stuff itself be poured into the gutter, and every scamp who dares to traffic in it, be kicked out of the community. If this course is adopted *nine tenths* of our murders and crimes of all sorts will be done away.

2nd. Let us purify and filter our courts of Justice, till brutal demagogues and runaway rogues shall no longer don the ermine of power, and prostitute their offices to money-making or personal prejudice. Then the squatters and the people will have confidence that their rights will be respected, and will trust the Authorities to execute the LAW.

MORE PERSECUTION OF THE BAPTISTS.—The Trustees of the Mississippi College have honored Rev. Dr. Wayland—for many years President of Brown University the first Baptist Institution in this country—with the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Trustees of Mississippi College do hereby condemn the teachings of Dr. Wayland, in his "Moral Science," on the subject of African slavery, and that the Faculty of the College be requested to discontinue the use of Wayland's Moral Science, as a text-book.

The book simply teaches that the Institution of Slavery in a moral WRONG.

☞ We have received information confirming the statement of the lynching of the half-breed Chippewas, alluded to yesterday. The mob took the prisoners as they were hand-cuffed, and hung them on one tree.

H. L. TICKNER & CO.,

DEALERS in Dry Goods, Groceries, Crockery, Boots, Sh and Ready-Made Clothing. Call at the Cash Store d door to the Post Office.

E. H. DAVIS & BUNCE,

DEALERS in Stoves, Tin-Ware, Tools, Nails, Glass a Hardware generally, and Manufacturers of Tin and Sh Iron Ware. D. & B. have also a branch at Monticello.

McDONNELL,

MANUFACTURER of Boots, Shoes and Moccasins. hand a stock of French Kip and Calf Skins, of a super quality. Store next door east of the Post Office.

G. W. PUTNAM,

DEALER in Groceries, Provisions and Crockery. On hand stock of School and Miscellaneous Books and Stationer Firs' door north of the Flouring Mills.

HODSDEN & BOULTER,

MANUFACTURERS of Sash, Doors and Blinds. They also prepared to plane lumber and manufacture the su approved kind of Clap-Boarding or Siding for builders. F doo above Putnam's Grocery and Provision Store.

BLODGETT & LEWIS,

MANUFACTURERS of Sash, Doors and Blinds. Being f nished with the most approved machinery, and good facilities for drying lumber, are prepared to fil promptly all ord for work. Connected with their establishment is machin for splitting lumarack poles, whereby they are greatly impro for fence rails.

J. McCANN,

HAVING leased the new Saw Mill, (Knowle's patent), prepared to saw hardwood or other logs. On the open of navigation he will receive a large quantity of pine, and furnish any amount of lumber on the most favorable terms.

O. A. SMITH,

HAS on hand an excellent lot of Shingles, of superior qu ity, at the Steam Mill above the Dam.

THE ST. LAWRENCE HOTEL

IS open for the accommodation of the traveling public, A its proprietors will use their best endeavors to promote comfort of guests. MOUNTS & JOHNSON, Proprietors.

C. H. SMITH,

DEALER IN HARDWARE, opposite the St. Lawre Hotel.

J. F. KUPFER & CO.,

DEALERS in Dry Goods, Groceries, Ready-Made Cloth Boots and Shoes, opposite St. Lawrence Hotel.

D. Y. JONES & CO.,

DEALERS in Boots, Ready-Made Clothing, Hosiery, Je elry, &c., next door to Kupfer & Co.

E. P. SHAW,

DEALER in Dry Goods, Groceries, Provisions, Boots Shoes and Ready-Made Clothing.

A. P. LANE,

NOTARY PUBLIC and Justice of the Peace. Residence the Mississippi, below the mouth of Rum River.

DR. A. W. GIDDINGS,

PHYSICIAN, SURGEON AND DE TIST. Will attend the duties of his profession at all times.

LIVERY STABLE,

BY R. SHULER, opposite the St. Lawrence Hotel, Ano Minnesota Territory.

GEO. SMILY,

LAND AGENT AND NOTARY PUBLIC.

J. KELLEY,

MANUFACTURER OF BOOTS AND SHOES.

C. H. SMITH,

NOTARY PUBLIC.

J. B. SHAW,

REAL ESTATE BROKER.

FOR SALE.

10,000 FEET OF SEASONED LUMBER. Enquire at ja23-tf PUTNAM'S

O. F. & C. C. PERKINS

ATTORNEYS & COUNSELLORS AT LA

Faribault, Rice Co., M. T. jy7-tf&wm

D. ROBBINS,

AT the mouth of Rum River, has on hand seasoned lum and is prepared to fill all orders for dimension stuff short notice.

DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE TERRITOR

DR. E. SNELL,

HYDROPATHIC PHYSICIAN

my24-tf&aw Excelsior, Min. Ter

J. R. HOLT,

NOTARY PUBLIC,

Elm Creek, Minnesota Territory. ja2-t

LEVI E. THOMPSON. THEO. E. PARKER.

THOMPSON & PARKER,

ATTORNEYS and Counsellors at Law, Stillwater, Min sota Territory. nov18-

STEPHEN MILLER. HENRY SWISSHELM.

MILLER & SWISSHELM,

DEALERS IN REAL ESTATE,

Water Street, Lower Town St. Cloud, M. T

REFER TO

Gov. James Pollock, Harrisburg, Pa.
S. D. Jones & Co., Bankers, Pittsburg, Pa.
Marshall & Co., Bankers, St. Paul, M. T.
Gov. Alex. Ramsey, St. Paul, M. T.
Snyder & McFarlane, Minneapolis, M. T. my4-6m

A JACKSON BELL,

NOTARY PUBLIC, PRACTICAL SURVEYOR

And Dealer in Real Estate

Glencoe, M. T. ja15-t

R. W. HAMILTON,

ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW

Notary Public and Dealer in Real Estate.

Canon Falls, Minnesota.

EDWARD P. SHAW,

DEALER IN DRY GOODS, CLOTHING, BOOTS AND SHOE CROCKERY,

Groceries and Provisions,

DRUGS AND MEDICINES

ANOKA, Minnesota.

RESIDENTS OF THE UPPER MISSISSIPPI, CRO AND RUM RIVERS, can here be supplied with wh they require in his line, on as low terms as at St. Paul, cost transportation added. He flatters himself that his knowled of the wants of this part of the country are equal to if superior to any one in the same business, having opened t first store in Anoka, in the year 1854. ja6-t

To Landlords, Contractors and Builders.

BONUS OF $30,000.

THE attention of Landlords, Contractors and Builder is invited to the following proposals made by the und signed on behalf of the citizens of St. Paul.

It is proposed to erect in the upper part of the City of Paul, site already secured, a First Class Hotel of brick stone, to cost not less than one hundred thousand dollars.

As an inducement to undertake the enterprise, a bonus Thirty Thousand Dollars will be guaranteed to the person persons undertaking to erect the Hotel; the land and build to be the property of the contractor when finished.

Plans for the building with specifications, will be furnish by the committee. Communications may be addressed to Vance Brown, Secretary of the Committee.

ALEX. RAMSEY,
A. VANCE BROWN,
D. C. TAYLOR, } Com.
A. S. ELFELT,

St. Paul, May 5, 1857.

☞ City papers copy. Also the N. Y. Tribune, N. Y. H aid, Boston Traveler, Philadelphia Ledger, Chicago Dem cratic Press and Toronto Leader, two weeks, and send bills committee.

MONEY TO LOAN.

A FEW thousand dollars to loan on good mortgages at l rates. Apply to W. C. THOMPSON, je 16-tf Third-st, three doors above Wabashaw-st

SETTLE UP.

BEING about to close my business, I offer to sell my en stock of

Groceries, Liquors, Wines, Cigars, &c., &c

AT FIRST COST!

Those having any claims against me are requested to pres the same within ninety days; and all indebted to me are requested to settle within the same time.

JOSEPH ULLMANN

NEW MAP OF MINNESOTA.

MESSRS. MEYER & VON MINDEN have a large supply of Territory of Minnesota on hand and for sale at t Bookstore opposite the Post Office. VON HAMM. no27-tf Sole Agent for Messrs. Meyer & Von Minden.

GREAT BARGAIN

REV. R. BALME offers for sale 9,270 45-100 acres of lan including 17 acres of city lots in West St. Paul, for a f days as a great bargain. The above lands border on some the most beautiful lakes in Minnesota, and possess the be quality of soil. All enquiries addressed to Box 326, P. O will be promptly attended to. jy10-tf&w

LOON SHOOTING.

THE undersigned will pay $3 for every Loon, and 50 c for every Kind Fisher shot on Lake Como and brou to his house. WM. S. ALRICH, je5-4wd Lake Como, near St. Paul.

MINNEAPOLIS REAL ESTATE OFFICE.

DELANO T. SMITH, Attorney at Law, Notary Public, a Dealer in Real Estate. Land Warrants bought and so Money loaned and invested for Capitalists.

Office in United States Land Office Building,

ap4 15-wy Minneapolis, Minnesota.